

THE
PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
SURTEES SOCIETY
VOL. CLVII

*Made and Printed in Great Britain
by Northumberland Press Limited
Gateshead on Tyne*

THE
PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
SURTEES SOCIETY

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR
M.DCCC.XXXIV



VOL. CLVII
FOR THE YEAR M.CM.XLII

S.L. 822

THE
AUTOBIOGRAPHIES
AND LETTERS
OF
THOMAS COMBER

SOMETIME PRECENTOR OF YORK
AND DEAN OF DURHAM

EDITED BY
C. E. WHITING

VOL. II

PUBLISHED FOR THE SOCIETY BY
ANDREWS & CO., SADLER STREET, DURHAM
BERNARD QUARITCH, 11 GRAFTON STREET
NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W.

1947

PREFACE

THIS volume contains the remainder of the letters of Thomas Comber as far as they are now available. As was stated in the preface to the first volume many of the dean's papers were destroyed by a member of the family a generation or two ago. Others have disappeared since. A letter from Comber to Archbishop San-croft, refusing the vicarage of All Hallows, Barking, indexed lv. 57, in the Tanner Collection at the Bodleian Library, cannot now be found. In the British Museum Library was a manuscript entitled *Some Account of Thomas Comber, written by Himself*. This was catalogued in Ayscough's Catalogue of British Museum MSS., but in the MSS. Department's copy of this catalogue is a note in the handwriting of Sir F. Madden: "Found to be missing 8. Nov. 1852." It was probably another copy of *The History of My Life*. To the Bodleian MSS. mentioned in vol I, p. xiv three other transcripts are here added: MSS. Eng. Hist. b. 2, f. 69: Add MSS. D. 23 ff. 14 and 99. Two letters of Comber to Timothy Manlove, in the British Museum, Add MS. 4275, ff. 117, 118, 119, removed for safety during the war have now returned and are here transcribed.

The transcripts at Durham have gaps and mistakes. As a rule they are reproduced here exactly as they stand, unless from other sources we can be sure about the correct reading. The inaccuracies are probably largely due to the worn condition of the original documents, but the result has been to cause a good deal of trouble. To take a single example: In vol. I, p. 95, there is a reference to Avernian Marcossinus, and no writer of that name could be found. The quotation was not in Tertullian, *Adversus Marcionem*, nor in Irenaeus, *Adversus Haereses* where Irenaeus deals with the Marcosian Gnostics. It was at last run to earth in *Ammianus Marcellinus*. It is only fair to say that where Canon Raine has copied the letters himself, the result is nearly always accurate, but the other transcriber was frequently at a loss.

The letters and papers in these two volumes are not without value as throwing light on the condition of the Church of England in the later seventeenth century, and on the lives of some of the more eminent clergy. Perhaps to modern eyes the most unfavourable aspect of Comber's life is his diligent search for preferment. We even find him enquiring after a living before the incumbent was dead. A cynic might read the account of the death of the Bishop of Chichester and suggest "that the Rev. Peter Heald was most concerned with the fact that it upset his chances of speedy preferment." Other people wrote to Comber when making an effort to obtain preferment, hoping that he would prove a powerful advocate. The whole business has rather an unpleasant appearance, but it must be said for Comber that he was a married man with a family, and since the Church of England in the sixteenth century had practically insisted on a married clergy, the Church of England should have provided the clergy with proper maintenance for a family. Instead of that very many of the parishes had been robbed of property and income. A glance over the pages of Ecton's *Liber Valorum et Decimarum* shows what miserable provision was left for perhaps the majority of incumbents. Comber's own account of his finances suggests that he had partly to rely on the money which came to him with his wife, and partly on profits from his books, most of which seem to have had a good sale. There was a great outcry against pluralities in the seventeenth century, but they went on all the same, and in the twentieth century they are being revived again. The civil lawyers who had ousted the ecclesiastical lawyers in the sixteenth century also got very good pickings out of the Church funds. Witness what Comber says about the income of his precentorship at York. It can also be said for him that he exercised a lavish hospitality and spent considerable sums on church repairs, and as these letters show, he refused several preferments which were offered him. It may be said for him also that if he begged occasionally for himself he begged equally hard for his friends.

Thomas Comber was a student from his youth up, and his literary output was large. Those were the days of ponderous tomes. Scholars had fewer books, it is true, but they knew them well. In his correspondence we get glimpses of the varied selection of books

which Comber, or his friends for him, purchased from time to time. He was the correspondent of learned men like himself, Cave, Hickes, Abednego Sellar, Samways, Beveridge, Hugh Todd, James Johnson and Matthew Hutton, and Dr. Edward Gee sent him an account of his travels abroad. Comber was a keen controversialist, and his pamphlets were largely on controversial subjects. In his day a theological dispute could be fairly violent and almost abusive, though it fell short in these respects of the virulence of such men as Bayle and Becon in the previous century. Comber did not descend to that kind of thing, though his somewhat dictatorial and superior air must sometimes have annoyed his opponents, except perhaps Burnet, who was more than a match for him in this.

In reality he was a friendly and affectionate man, loyal to his friends, as in the case of Danby, and deferential to his superiors, whose good opinion he liked to think he possessed. He was easily disturbed by apparent slights or by slanders spread by his enemies, and was greatly troubled when he thought the Queen and the Archbishop of Canterbury were angry with him. At the outset of the Non-juring movement he must have felt distressed by the unavoidable parting from friends. He was glad to be able in after years to renew his old friendship with Hickes, but Granville was implacable to the last. Comber was devoted to his family, to his mother-in-law and his children, and was always willing to help his relatives. Few brothers-in-law would have shown as much kindness and patience as he did towards the wayward Robert Thornton.

As an ecclesiastic he did good work both at York and Durham. He spent money generously on the improvement and repair of the buildings which he served, especially Thornton Church. He put Lady Lumley's Charity on a sound footing. Many of the clergy turned to him for advice. So did the laity, people like Elizabeth Neale and Lady Martha Cary: the latter a type not unknown to the clergy of all ages, devout, always full of trouble, inclined a little to hysteria, generous to a fault and devoted for a time. With such people Comber could be very gentle and patient.

Stout in his Protestantism, he was against all the ways and works of the Church of Rome. Clear-headed though he usually was, he was swept away by popular passion and believed implicitly in the lying tales of Oates and Tong about a Popish Plot. Some

years afterwards he was still suspicious that some dreadful machinations were going on amongst the Roman Catholics. His correspondent evidently was in sympathy with "Julian" Johnson. His loyalty to James II broke down with the issue of the Second Declaration of Indulgence, and he reported to Carmarthen the suspicious behaviour of the Jacobites in the north and the doubtful loyalty to William and Mary of Judge Neville and the Bishop of Durham.

He was a zealous conformist and believed earnestly in Anglican Orders and the Anglican liturgy. He was ready to enter into controversy with the Nonconformists about such matters, and to argue with Dissenters and Churchmen about a divine right of the clergy to tithes. When, however, he argued with Nonconformists the controversialists had such incompatible standpoints that as a rule much energy was wasted to none effect. Comber's chief work, of course, was his great "Companion" to the Prayer Book, a work which did much to increase the loyalty of Anglicans to the settlement of 1662. He sympathized with Granville's endeavour to establish a weekly Communion in the cathedrals, but he hardly seemed enthusiastic about it. He could scarcely be called a High Churchman. He was rather of the type of some of the Low Church clergy one remembers half a century ago. These had a firm belief in Anglican Orders, in the three Creeds and the necessity of the two Sacraments. They wore surplices, scarves and hoods, were most careful in the preparation of candidates for Confirmation, and they held a view of Holy Communion which was far removed from Zuinglianism, and seemed to them peculiarly Anglican. Comber would have been perfectly at home with them.

He had many friends amongst the nobility and gentry and on the episcopal bench. On two occasions at least we find him taking upon himself to advise the Archbishop of Canterbury on the filling up of vacant sees. Lionel Vane sends him the latest news on foreign affairs. Lord Freschville, a relative by marriage, is on intimate and friendly terms with him and his family. After the fall of James II he can be described as a Whig in politics, and a friend and supporter of Danby, now successively Marquess of Carmarthen and Duke of Leeds, to whom he expresses his doubts about the loyalty of magistrates and the intentions of the northern Catholics.

Comber was very delicate as a child and never robust as a man. He suffered from frequent illness in the last year or two of his life, but he was able to attend to business the day before he died. His will, dated 10th March 1696-7, constituted his old friend Charles Man, Rector of Gilling, and another friend, Roger Store,¹ Rector of Nunnington and a member of his old college, to be his executors and trustees for his children. He died 26th November 1699. On 17th December a warrant was issued for the presentation of Dr. John Montagu to the Deanery of Durham, and on 21st December another warrant for the presentation of Robert Denton, son of John Denton, to Stonegrave.² Comber was succeeded at Thornton in 1699 by the Rev. Thomas Mason of Sidney Sussex College. Mason continued there till his death in 1744.

Since the first volume was written the Rev. E. Philip Comber has transferred all the dean's papers in his possession to Mr. J. H. Comber. I owe them both a debt of gratitude for the kind and ready way in which they have put all their papers at my disposal. An equal debt of gratitude is due to Professor A. Hamilton Thompson, who has read the proofs and made useful suggestions and corrections. I also wish to express my thanks to Lt.-Col. C. F. Battiscombe, and Mr. E. H. Knight of the Durham Cathedral Library, and to Miss Eleanor Murphy, M.A., for kind and willing help.

¹ Roger Store or Storr. Son of Christopher Store, woollen draper; born at Middleton, Yorks; Pickering School; B.A. Sidney Sussex, Cambridge, 1674; Deacon 1674; Priest 1675-6; Rector of Nunnington 1678-98; Rector of Sutton Derwent 1698.

² *Cal. S.P. Dom. William III.* 1699-1700. pp. 319, 324.



CORRIGENDA ET ADDENDA. VOL. I

- p. xv. Barcombe should be Balcombe. Balcombe is eight miles west of Horsham. Barcombe is three miles N.E. of Lewes. The Rev. E. P. Comber tells me there were never any Combers at Barcombe. Thomas Comber himself was the cause of confusion here. "My father's family was very ancient in Sussex at Barkham" (p. 1, *The History of My Life*). The family also disbelieve the ensuing statement about an ancestor receiving lands at "Barkham" from the Conqueror.
- p. xxiv. Marmaduke Wykes was Rector of Leaseholme. An old Royalist soldier, he was ordained at the Restoration. He also held the living of Ellerburn. In 1689 he took the oaths to William and Mary at Stokesley. The Wykes family held the living of Leaseholme for three generations. (Baring Gould, *Yorkshire Oddities*, II, pp. 10-13.)
- p. xliii. John Leng was born at Thornton in 1665, and was at Thornton School in or about 1673. Thence he went to St. Paul's School and afterwards to St. Catherine's Hall, Cambridge, where he was B.A. 1686, M.A. 1690, B.D. 1698 and D.D. 1716. In 1688 he was made Fellow and later was appointed Tutor. He edited the *Plutus* and *Nubes* of Aristophanes, and also the Cambridge *Terence*. He was Rector of Beddington, Surrey, in 1708, was Boyle Lecturer, and in 1723 became Bishop of Norwich. He died 1727.
- pp. liv and lxxiv. *The Examiner Briefly Examined*. Delete "*Briefly*."
- p. lxxvii, l. 1. Read "Frances Sidney, Countess of Sussex."
- p. 24. Freschville died March 31st 1682.
- p. 76. Blackbeard was probably of the same family as Nicholas Blackbeard of East Ness in the parish of Hovingham, town clerk of York 1646-71, and buried at St. Michael-le-Belfry, York.

- p. 70, n. 2. The first edition of Harris's translation was published in 1656.
- p. 95. John Garthwaite became prebendary of York in 1662.
- p. 99, n. 2, l. 3. Read "Mells, Somerset, and York."

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Thomas Comber's Letters

(continued)

30. T.C. TO A DISSENTER¹

SIR,

I had no other motive to my late discourse with you, then my charity to your soul, and since you rightly apprehend my endeavours to proceed from that principle, I hope they will have the better success upon you, especially because I perceive by the close of your Letter that you are not one of those who choose opinions rashly and hold them obstinately, but are willing your sentiments should be tryed by Scripture and Reason, and you resolve to hold them no longer then you find them agreeing to truth.

Wherefore I am encouraged to make this volume to your kind Letter : I understand that your reasons for not worshiping with the Church of England are three, as far as I can collect your sense.

- I. Because the Scriptures bid you to sepearate, and show the danger of joyning in a strange worship
- II Because you cannot find such a Church and such a worship as ours in God's word
- III Because you cannot worship in faith, if you joyn with a Church whose worship is not grounded on the word of God : This is the sum of your Reasons which I will particularly Examine.
- I. You say [“I dare not worship or become a member with a strange Church or a strange worship which is not to be found warranted in the word of God because we are commanded in Scripture to come out and sepearate 2 Corinth 6.17. Rev 18.4. Isai 48.20 and 52.11 Jer 51.6 and 45]. I wish you had read these places with what goes before and follows, and then I thinke you would not have urged them to justify your seperating from a Church believing in the true God and in Jesus Christ &c for

¹ Undated.

not one of them belong to that matter as you will see in the particulars

1: Text: [2 Cor. 6.17. Come out from among them and be ye separte] Now consider who these words are spoken to. Unto the Church of God at Corinth 2 Ep: 1.1 the Christians of that City. 2^{ly} who were they to come out and separte from? the Unbelievers in v. 14, from the Infidells in v. 15, from servers of idols v. 16 that is the Heathens at Corinth. 3^{ly} Consider wherein they were to separte. I suppose in not marrying with them. v. 14. Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers, that is make not such disagreeing matches as between Christians and Heatheus: So that here is nothing of worship, nothing of seperating from professors of Christianity, yet this is your main Text, but I intreat you consider upon how false a ground you have seperated all this while, for this Text if it be applyed to our Church would rather prove you should not marry with a protestant then not worship with one: but indeed it forbids neither.

2 Text [Reve 18.4. Here Gods people are commanded to come out of Babylon, that they be not partakers of her sins and of her plagues] By Babylon here is meant some Imperiall great city tis likely (Heathen Rome) which God resolved to destroy, and warns all the Christians that should be in or about it to be gone far off. v 12, lest they were involved in a common destruction, as Lot from Sodom Gen 19, and the faithfull from Jerusalem Mat 24.16 but here is nothing of worship neither, and if our Church were Babylon (as you thinke) this text adviseth you to goe and dwell in some other Country, not to stay from our worship, and bids you separte not for fear of faults in worship, but of God's plagues: so that this defends not your seperation

3.4.5 Texts [Isai 48, 20 &c 52.11. Jerem. 51.6.45] I have put these places all together because they all doe belong to the literall Babylon, and to the old Jews, who had been captives there, but here are prophecyes and exhortations for them to come out of Babylon, and so they did under Cyrus. Not one word of seperating from the corruptions of the Jewish Church (nor did Isaiah or Jeremy ever separte from the Temple worship) only of coming out of captivity, so that these places, are nothing to our or your use. Objection: But you say (Every church not instituted according to God's revealed will

in his word is a Babel, from which true worshippers ought to sepearate)

Answer. You say soe but doe not prove it, but I say Babel was a Heathen Idolatrous city, the people of which were the first Idolators in the world, and there was no Church there at all, and I pray why might a faulty Church be like a place where there is no Church? Good friend doe but observe the ignorance of these Authors you borrow this from, and do not be deluded by them, for it is their manner to call anything they hate, Babel and Rome and Egypt without any proof and then confidently apply what is said of those places, to our Church, as if those Scriptures were meant of us, which is an abominable prophaning God's word, and a bold wresting it to a sense never intended by the writer : alas if I durst be so bold I might call the Conventicles Sodom or Samaria, and apply many such things to them, but God forbid ! I pray then hereafter mind tho the scope of the writer, and apply everything to the place it belongs and you will never be frighted from a Christian assembly with such abused Scriptures.

Having thus showed you have no ground in holy Scripture for sepearation, let me mention something out of Scripture that is against it. It is sure all sepearation is not good; for in Isaiah's time some seperated out of pride. c 55 :5. Yea the Gnostick Heretiques themselves from the Orthodox Christians Jude 19, as the Novatians and Donatists did afterwards—St Paul blames the Corinthians for faction and schism 1 Cor 3.4. and bids the Christian Hebrews not forsake the assembling of themselves together Heb 10.25. but you will say, no more would you forsake us, if there were no worship unwarrantable in our Assemblies; 'tis well, but if the best example in Scripture be our patterns, we must not sepearate from the Church in which we live, no not though some unwarrantable or strange worship be in it. for the high places were directly against Gods word. Deut 12.10.11 yet they were used all along, and neither Asa 1 Kings 15.14. nor Jehoshaphat Chap 12.43 nor other holy men in those days did ever separate on that account : many unscripturall things were done in Hezekiahs' Passover, yet none of the faithfull forsook it for that reason. 2 Chron. 29. But more plainly in our Saviours time there was so many traditions, false doctrines, superstitions and abuses in Gods worship at the Temple that there never was a more

corrupted worship. Yet our Lord Jesus never seperated from it, but prayed and preached in their Synagogues and in the Temple, kept their Festivalls &c and so did the Apostles and first Christians, till the Jews persecuted them and would not permit them to doe it. And why doe not you follow their Example? Is our worship worse than the Jews was then? It may be you think you should be guilty of some sin by being present at our worship. I answer there is no sin in our worship, but admit some were, if you doe not consent to it, you are not guilty: there is sin in every company you come into, whether Civil or Religious. Sin in a Court at a feast, at a meeting house, but only they are guilty of it who commit it, not a bystander. Beside it is certainly your duty to joyn with your brethren in the publick worship, but you only suspect some faults are in it: and if you stay away you run upon a certaine sin for fear of an uncertaine, and you lose the comfort and benefit of the ordinances, affront the Religion of your Country and perhaps discourage others besides: so that there is no Example in Scripture nor no command to justify your seperation, but rather matter of condemnation both in Scripture and Reason to urge against it: and therefore I hope you will no longer persist in it

2^{ly} you say [you cannot find such a Church and such a worship as ours in the word of God] this I answered fully in our discourse but that I may give you all just satisfaction: I desire you to look into your Bible. Doe you not find a Company of Christians believing in God and Jesus Christ? so doe we: Had they not some for ordering and instructing the people consecrated by laying on of hands? so have we: were not some of these higher as Apostles and Bishops: some lower as Pastors and Deacons? so it is now. Did they not meet in the same place, and especially on the Lord's Day? So doe we: then for the worship we use. Is not prayer instituted in Gods word 1 Tim. 2.1. Reading the Scriptures and Preaching 1 Tim. 4.13. 2 Tim. 4.2. Is not Baptism and the Holy Communion commanded there Matt 28.19. Mar 16.16. Luk 22.19. 1 Cor. 11.23. Are not singing of Psalms and Hymns prescribed in Scripture Mat. 26.30. Colos. 3.16. And these are the substantiall parts of our worship, especially on the Lord's day. And why doe you call this a strange worship or this a strange Church, which declares that nothing is to be appointed as a substantiall, necessary and unalter-

able part of God's worship but what is enjoined by Scripture: this is the doctrine of this Church and alas why should you separate from it. 2^{ly} you will say that you cannot find our Customs, Gestures, Habits, methods, forms and other Ceremonies in Scripture: I Answer these are not our Church nor our worship yet I will engage none of these are condemned by Scripture, many of them commended there, as I could particularly prove, but it is needless, for you are to be a hearer and what is it to you what garments the Minister useth or what place he prays in &c there are few Ceremonies belong to the people only to Kneele sometimes, and sometimes to stand or sit. Some of these you might doe, and why not that posture which our Governors enjoyn Besides you are grossly mistaken to expect all circumstances in Scripture, for how can you prove the Scripture is a rule for ceremonies? or where is the hour of the worship set down? Where the habit we shall weare? Where the Duty first to be done? Where the posture all the while? for these things the Dissenters are forced to act in their worship without Scripture, What Scripture is there for wearing a Cloke or Coat, for taking one Text, for praying before their sermon and after it, for standing at prayer, for sitting down when the word is read &c. Really I am sorry you should be abused with such a false Principle, which would lead you to separate from all the Congregations in the world: the Scripture was written for Faith and manners and the substantialls of worship, and for these it is a perfect rule, but not for Ceremonies which the writers thereof never intended to determine. Some they used as the Kiss of Charity, Love Feasts, Sunday Collections, which you and we now wholly leave out, and some we may take in which they had not, for their Condition and ours was infinitely different, they persecuted, we at peace, they had miraculous gifts, we none, they settling and enlarging, we all professing faith and settled, so that their rules cannot fit us if they had left any: do conclude you may finde all Essentialls of our Church, and our worship in Scripture, and many of the Circumstances, and the purest Church imaginable cannot produce Scripture for all Circumstances.

And now I shall easily answer your last viz (That you cannot worship in Faith) which you say is necessary in the worship of God: and I freely confess that we cannot serve God comfortably unless we believe he appointed the Duty: But I have now proved that

God hath instituted prayers, preaching, Sacraments and Singing Hymns or Psalms, and therefore if you will open your eyes and lay aside your prejudices you may worship in all these Duties with Faith grounded upon Gods word. But the formes, (you say) and gestures &c these you cannot believe to be grounded on Gods word. What then? these are not by our Church imposed as matters of Faith, only as decent and fit in the judgment of the wise Governors, whom God sets over us: if you will doe no duty unless the Circumstances be all set down in Scripture, you shall scarce doe any Duty at all: It is enough to doe a Duty in Faith, if I be sure God enjoyns the Duty, and if no Circumstances plainly contradict Gods word there is no reason for our faith to startle. God will one day say this. I commanded plainly to pray, hear, Communicate in Publique: the other I left uncommanded, why did you or how durst you neglect a plain Duty for a Single and indifferent Ceremony? Consider what you will answer him at the great day: I have no more Roome but only to assure you I pittie your mistakes and pray that you may see them, and if I find that you desire truth rather than contention, I shall be ready to give you satisfaction, but if you believe these great truths, you may safely joyn with us, and for lesser scruples they will easily vanish. Thus with my hearty Respects I doe subscribe and will Approve my self

Your souls well wisher

T.C.

SIR

If what is here said doe by God's blessing satisfy your maine objections I shall exceedingly rejoyce and doubt not but when you have had experience of our worship, you will thank God and me for these Endeavours and for lesser ceremonies because it may be too tedious to run over them all in letter I shall desire you and your brother Eben to doe me the favour to come to Newton where I doe not question to give you sufficient reason for every one of our Ceremonies by Discourse, and if you please can furnish you with some excellent books on that subject. But if you continue yet resolved on your Separation, and desire to argue further you cannot satisfy it either to God or any knowing man, unless you doe these things

- I. show some plain and positive Command in Scripture which enjoyns us to seperate from a Church because some things are unwarrantable therein
- II. Prove that the Church of England Commands anything as an Essentiall necessary and unalterable part of God's worship which is not instituted by God.
- III. Produce some clear testimony of Gods word affirming that we must doe nothing about or in Gods service but what is enjoyned in the Scripture
- IV. Instance in some Church, of old or new which hath nothing in their worship but what is plainly set down in the word of God
- V. Name any Ceremony required of you as a Hearer to doe or joyn in which is plainly forbidden in Gods word, and so is sinfull. If you cannot doe all this (and I think it will be impossible) you ought not to abstain from the worship of this Church, yea it is a sin in you to doe it. Consider what I say and the Lord give you understanding in all things

Yours

T.C.

31. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Mar : 18.

SIR

I am glad Sir Hugh Cholmlye hath given you so faire an answer, and as to my Lord Treasurer taking notice of it I assure you that is no prejudice or impediment to his future favoure: but for the expectation at Durham I feare a (? it) may be now at an end for my Lord Fresheville (? Treasurer) consulted with M^r . . . and his opinion is that his maiestye had past away his right to the Bishopp. As for the residence at Thornton I should be very sorry if that should be strictly required, but I hope there may be an expedient found to excuse you. I shall not faile to make your gratitude knowne to my Lord Treasurer. I must answer my deare neece Thornton's letter in . . . and concerning the good offices Sir Christopher¹ expects

¹ Mrs. Thornton had a long dispute with Sir Christopher Wandesford about her late husband's property and debts. *Autobiography of Mrs. Thornton*. pp. 265-69.

should be done by her to my Lord Treasurer for whom certainly he does it but to picke a quarrell for he knows well enough there are no hopes for anything of that nature. The being at London with his family makes it vastly expencefull to him and I feare he will be more unfitt to doe my neece any justice. The House of Commons since their giving £600000 for shipping have given his majesty the additional duty of the [excise] for three yeares.¹ Both houses are now uppon an addresse to his Majesty to endeavour to prevent the French King of takinge the Spanish Netherlands.² Pray God it be not too late. The four lords are still in limbo.³

With my affectionate respects
and my faithfull service to my deare Neece and all hers
I am Sir
Your most reall freind to serve you
J. Fresheville

32. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Apr. 7th 1677.

SIR,

I desire you to excuse me that I made you not a Returne to your last letter before this but you might easily guesse that I could not doe it to your satisfaction because I made no more hast for the first place I know not whether the often repeating of requests to my Lord Treasurer might be unwellcome to him, for persons in his condition do not delight in makinge suits to other men; then I am sure it would be most unwellcome to the Arch Bishop who does not love to part with any thinge but to his own particular satisfaction. I assure you Sir Hugh Chomlye was highly pleased that my Lord

¹ The House of Commons early in 1677 (Session from February 15th to April 16th) granted £600,000, and renewed the additional excise on beer for three years, for the cost of building new warships.

² Addresses to the King from both Houses urged him to join the Coalition to prevent Louis XIV from taking possession of the Spanish Netherlands.

³ Lords Shaftesbury, Salisbury, Buckingham and Wharton were committed to the Tower in February 1677 for contending that as Parliament had been prorogued for more than a year, it had now *ipso facto* ceased to exist. Shaftesbury remained in the Tower for over twelve months.

Treasurer was concerned in the addresse which was made in your behalfe and he told me as much though he protested he was resolved to conferre it upon yourselfe uppon the former account: he added that he was sorry the Parsonage house was in ill repairs but that will be a good excuse for your non-residence and I am confident he will be very reasonable in that particulare. The Parliament proceeds peacefully but we have good newse out of Flanders that the Prince of Oranges Army is defeated in attempting the releefe of S^t Omars.¹ With my service to my deare neece and all hers I am

ever your most affectionate

And faithfull freind

J. Fresheville

33. DR. HENRY WATKINSON² TO T.C.

DEAR SIR

Your letter of the 20th instant I received last evening, at my return from a journey, I deal really with you in what I write, doe not you therefore either complement with me, or think, that I will dissemble with you, but both speak and write my minde freely to you, I am satisfied by what you intimate to me, that the quotation of Ant: Holman is right, though I doe not remember to have seen that author:³ Brissonius,⁴ and Fr: Hol:⁵ are both very eminent ones; this morning I spoak with M^r Conyers though in haste, he tells me, there is one life voide in the lease of Holme Archiep: prebend, and if it be putt to your choice, I should advise you to accept that rather

¹ William of Orange was defeated while attempting to relieve St. Omer, by the French under the Dukes of Orleans and Luxemburg.

² Henry Watkinson. See I, p. 31n. There is a memorial to Henry Watkinson, Chancellor for 39 years, who "died 8 Kal Maii 1712," aged 86, in St. Cuthbert's, York. He either did not know that Comber had already accepted the prebend (Letter 26), though he was not installed till 5th July, or else this letter is wrongly dated.

³ I have failed to find Anthony Holman.

⁴ Barnabé Brisson (1531-91). Advocate under Henri III and later Ambassador to England. Executed by order of "The Sixteen" in 1591. He wrote *De Formulis et Sollemnibus Populi Romani Verbis* 1583, *Le Code du Roy Henri III*, and *De Veteri Ritu Nuptiarum*. There was an edition of the last published at Amsterdam in 1662.

⁵ Fr. Hol: may be Francis Holyoake, author of *Dictionarium Etymologicum Latinum* 1633. The final edition of this work was published in 1676-7, edited and enlarged by the compiler's son, Thomas Holyoake.

then Bolivant for severall reasons, the latter being only stipendiary 20^l per annum, and is higher by a third part both in the Kings bookes and subsidies then the former: and hath all other charges equall with it, I doe not think it very reasonable to . . . either my Lord Tr. or Archdeacon in the matter you mention: and since you were here I see M^r Harrison,¹ who lookes much better then he did in the Assise time (tis not good waiteing for a dead mans shoes as the proverb hath it; I have not time to inlarge, shall send your other 3 sheets some time this next weeke, we all send our services to you and yours.

Yours heartily and
affectionately

April 21th /77.

Hen: Watkinson

34. LORD FRESHVILLE TO T.C.

London, Jan: 12.

SIR

This very instant I received your long letter without any date, but I am hartily glad to heare that you are so well knowne to the new Lord Archbishopp of Canterbury² and I will not faile to put his Grace in minde of you according to your desire. I will likewise be sure to presse Sir Christopher in my deare neeces behalfe and if I cannott prevaile I will sett my Lord Treasurer uppon him; but as to speake for a wayters place in the Custome house or any thinge of that nature I had rather give the worth of it out of my owne small stocke then mention a thinge which I know is so unacceptable to him and that he will not endure to heare of but from his own Officers. God knows every body in their station at this time is too much ingaged to sollicite such affaires, for the fate of the nation is at stake by the pressing necessitye of our entring into a most chargeable and dangerous warre with the French Kinge. With my most faithfull and entire respects to my deere neece Thornton and all her family, I am, Sir

Yours most faithfully
J. Frescheville.

¹ Thomas Fothergill was the holder of the prebend of Botevant. He died this year, 1677, but was succeeded by John Burton. Mr. Harrison did not hold a prebend, but it would seem that some one was hoping for his benefice.

² Sancroft was consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury 27th January 1678.

35. JOSEPH LANE TO T.C.

DEAR FRIEND

22 Jan. 1677.

Your 2 last are before me, and . . . the praises (tho' such as I think sincere) of others nor are so witty nor so pleasing as your Reproofs, which yet I will assure you have this edge also, and reach the quick and if any one can you will Reform me. In the mean while tho' as to yourself habes confitentem Re[um] yet let others always beleev that of me, which if not strictly true it self leads to a truth I will fight for ever with you, that since I knew you I never lov'd you more or forgot you, and that I cannot love you, or hardly remember you more, not withstanding my truancy from writing. Which I had done before if M^r Rawlinson had not given you an account of your last affair concerning M^r Mompesson, concerning which and your affairs by him assure yourself of my care, and also Solicitation of him. But (to write truth tho' to the losse of Credit) the true occasion of this is the necessity I ly under of not deferring an account to you of a Reall Complement from Sir John Bennet elder Brother to my Lord Chamberlain, in the honour of converse with whom looking on some of his books he broke forth into a . . . , the very great admiration of a book written by one M^r Comber, and after I had from excess of satisfaction, tho' with Rudeness both to him and out of self love to my friend a little interrupted him with the advantage of an obstructed eager flood, your praises flushed from him still more and fiercer. I told, saith he, my Lord Chamberlain that tho' he might count me foolish to commend a book to one wiser than my selfe, and tho' he were my younger brother yet twice fit he, as well as I should think of heaven, and surely the book will help us thither. When he asked me if I knew M^r Comber. No more then you, but if you Read him you will love as well as I a man, that with so much learning, wit and piety hath defended and obliged the church and kingdome. After I had showed him your last letter tho' to the discovery of my own faults, the King saith he should be told of such a man, and upon my improving the opportunity by acquainting him with your great friends, and yet slow preferment, and the contents of your other letter, which I remember well, and in fact (as we lawyers talk) tho' not in receipt have in part and shall

further answer if it (bono ad Deo) My Lord. Reply'd he, and my Lord Freshville who may doe what he will may be proud to serve such worth, had I a living of £500 per annum, none but M^r Comber should have it. And (upon my asking leave to let you know your obliger) Tell him I love him heartily and shall serve him willingly I will get him a Turn before the King for I know you with a modest pain suffer this, and this paper (Script et in . . .) (conversation with my son a Pauls Scholler begets these jagges of Latin) would not hold the halfe of what Remains. This might have passed for verball compliment, but the next day followed what was Reall. Before I speak of anything else, saith he, while I am in good humour, take a token from me for M^r Comber, and gave me five guineas and hardly suffering my expresses of my Sence of his favour to my friend, I shall, interposed he, have a living shortly void, I will not now oblige myself by a promise, but I beleeve I shall give it him—now how shall I dispose of your guineas to you and whether when you come to town (which M^r Rawlinson seems to intimate will be before Easter) you would preach before the King, With O^r most sensible and Respectfull Regards to your most deservedly honoured Mother, My Patronesse, Physician and, I know her humility and goodness allows me to adde, my Friend, and to your good Lady, is this Conclusion as it was the busines of

most dear friend

Yours above and beyond writing

Jos. Lane

My Brother Wagstaffe¹ sends his hearty Service to you and other Friends with you. Let your letter of notice of your token be directed to the Honorable Sir John Bennet Knight of the Bath, and let me have the Honor of the delivery thereof. And call me not impudent, when I say you so much imitate the silence you complain of. M^r Rawlinson² hath procured much credit to a late book of the Right

¹ Brother-in-law.

² This was probably William Rawlinson of Gray's Inn. Called to the Bar in 1667; Serjeant in 1686; Third Commissioner of the Great Seal, March 1689. Knighted 1689. Recommended by Godolphin to the office of Chief Baron of the Exchequer in 1695, but never appointed. Died 1703. Lane himself was a lawyer and would probably know him well.

A less likely person was Thomas Rawlinson, a merchant in the Old Bailey, who in August 1689 signed two petitions on behalf of the Vintners Company. He was knighted in 1689. He was on the list of jurors impanelled for the trials of Henry Cornish and Lord Russell. (See H.MSS. Com. MSS. House Lords 1689-90, *passim*.)

of tithes¹ and in defence of M^r Mompesson, by not contradicting the Report that you are the author. But I would not beleev that Report because I had not a book sent me.

My wife feared that by (O^r) may be understood Sir J B and therefore will not fold up my letter till I have Repeated her intirely affectionate and very Respectfull duty to M. Thornton, yourself and Lady.

36. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Jan^y 29th

SIR

I tooke occasion this day to present a most humble suit to my Lord ArchBishop of Canterbury in your behalfe and I assure you it was very well accepted, and his Grace told me that he had received the like Adresse by M^r Bertye from my Lord Treasurer. I proceeded further in the particulare of exchanging a Southern Preferment for a Prebendary of Durham which his Grace approved very well of And I doubt not that you will before it be long receive such advantages as you well deserve. Concerning the Justices of Peace in the North Ridinge² I will shew my Lord Treasurer the letter and I am confident that young Gibson is so pernicious a fellow that he is the occasion of his fathers disgrace but that it is almost in vayne to speake of any thinge to a man so opprest with the greatest affaires that are now in agitation. I have heere sent you his Majestyes Speech³ which I know you will applaud as all good subjects doe, but there are those who would impose uppon the Kinge the making

¹ *The Right of Tithes Asserted.* 1677.

² In 1677 the Smiths of Hallamshire complained of new demands for hearth money for their forges. The Lord Treasurer ordered that they should not be disturbed. Nevertheless the Lord Mayor of York and two justices of Nottinghamshire were summoned before the King and Council for maintaining that such forges ought not to pay. The Lord Mayor withdrew the statement, but the two justices of the peace, Gregory and Pierrepont, were put out of the Commission in July. On November 2nd two justices of the North Riding, Sir Henry Calverley and John Gibson, were dismissed for the same reason. (Hist. MSS. Com. Finch MSS. II. 45-6.) Gibson reappeared as a magistrate on April 24th 1688. This reference dates the letter in 1677-8.

³ This must be the speech made by the King to both Houses on the previous day, January 28th 1677-8. It is printed in Eachard. *Hist. Eng.* II, p. 937.

of warre to such purposes as all the lifes and mony in England cannot compasse. With my best wishes to my neeces I remaine

Sir Yours most faithfully

J. Freshcheville

M^r William Wandesforde is of opinion that you being here is necessary, and I wish it when the wayes and weather are better.

37. JOSEPH LANE TO T.C.

MY FRIEND.

That you write another letter (this being not yet delivered) to Sir John Bennet in gilded paper, and mention the sume of five guineas and send me word per next convenience when you intend to be here together with our hearty tho hasty dues to your Selfe and excellent Relations is the present opinion of

Yours in Post-hast

Jos Lane.

Guildhall 5 Feb 1677.

Mr Mompesson and I dined yesterday at Sir Christopher Wandsfords your businese is not neglected yet not begun to any purpose.

38. T.C. TO SIR JOHN BENNET¹

SIR

I have with some surprize received my good Friend M^r Lanes account of those great and reall testimonyes of your respect for me in your noble present of five Guinnes, with all those kind expressions of your favour and good intentions towards a Person who hath not the honour to be known to you and the fewer Examples of such generous gratitude this Age affords the more obligations I have to return my thankfull acknowledgments for the same: I may truly aver I had no other design in those Papers but only to serve true Devotion and to give the excellent offices of our Church their just and deserved valew, but it is enough to convince any who is never so much a stranger to your person, that you have a deer esteem of our holy administrations, and a sincere affection to Pyety when you are so pleased with what tends to the promoting such designs, and

¹ Raine dates this letter February 5th 1677-8, though there is nothing in the transcript to show this. It must, however, have followed quickly on the last.

doubtlesse it will be a great encouragement to me to proceed in the last vol: now under my hands when I find the Matter is so acceptable to Persons so truly lovers of pyety as your selfe: I know I have done nothing but by the assistance of the Divine Grace and therefore I hope whoever receives advantage by my endeavour will give God the glory for it; I have nothing to return for these great and obliging favours but a present of these books which you are pleased to esteem so well off and the assurance of my Prayers for you at the throne of Grace, that you may live to be a Patron and encourager of the Friends of this excellent Church and finally obtain the crown of righteousness which is layd up for all that love God; where he desires and hopes to meet you who is

Honoured Sir

yours by all the obligations

of pyety and gratitude Tho: Comber.

39. T.C. TO MADAM THORNTON

June 29. 78.

MY DEAREST MOTHER.

I think the very thoughts of returning into the North have recruited me for I was indisposed almost ever since I came to town and troubled with gravel and the Cholick, of which I praise God I am now perfectly well and so fitted for my journey, which M^r Lane makes me hope I shall begin on Tuesday next, but I somewhat doubt it, however if it please God Thursday will be the furthest, so that you can not write to me after the receipt of this unlesse to M^r Mompesson at Ekering¹ to be left at Tuxford, thither perhaps we may reach by next Saturday at night, but I doubt t'will be Tuesday sennight first if we go to Cambridge, or go not out till Thursday: I doubt *my deer* must not venture so long a journey, nor to York neither if it be as I hear sorely visited with the small pox, for it may be Mr Lane who is sore afraid of them will not come that way, but by Hull & Beverley, and then it may be we may meet thereabouts, as I will direct when I am sure how we moove: I am now admitted Doctor by the Archbishop's Patent and great seal, *which I this day received*, the first cost me above £20 but that

¹ Eakring.

is far short of £100, and 'tis *as honourable in every point* as at the Commencement I have got nothing yet to support it: but have very fair proposals and shall leave things in as good posture, which if Providence see fit may make my Condition more plentiful in a little time: but the particulars I reserve for Meeting: I have delivered your Letter to Lord Freshville and Sir Christopher, the latter is just going to Ireland with Lady¹ and Cosens Kit² and Elianor.³ Mary goes to M^r The two little boys to school at Enfield and Jo: Bradly is to wait on them for 1 Quarter and learn himself to write. M^r Lane is now resolved on his journey—*My picture is finished also this day* but will not be dry of a fortnight or so: As for Public News, none yet knows whether War or peace, but there is this day a great Muster of 8000 men; Some say 12000 men at Hounslow heath, neer the Tower whither King Duke and L. Treasurer are gon and almost everybody else. Sir Christopher assures me he will secure your debt at Michaelmas when he returns, and that he hath fetched it already, least any ill befall him, he speaks of you with great kindnesse, and all of them treat me very kindly. All my relations present their respects to you and my wife and the rest. I will buy as many of your things as my purse will allow which by those accidentall expenses is beginning to be low. I hope to find you in your Rape harvest for which I wish you a good season. My service to my Uncle Denton, whose business I cannot yet fix to my mind being disappointed by the *Dean of Canterbury*⁴ Mr Graham⁵ set out and all his on Munday and will be there I doubt not before me. I have got the Bishop of Chichester to promise to recommend me to my Cosen Comber, and if any hopes,

¹ Sir Christopher Wandesford married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Lowther, She was buried at Kirklington 1714.

² Sir Christopher, fifth son of Sir Christopher above. Created Baron Wandesford and Viscount Castlecomer. Died 1707.

³ Eleanor, seventh child of the first and sister of the second Sir Christopher. She married Amias Buske of Kilfan, Kilkenny.

⁴ Sancroft was consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury 27th January 1678 and was succeeded as Dean of St. Paul's by Edward Stillingfleet (1635-99). Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1653; M.A. 1656; D.D. 1668; Preacher at the Rolls Chapel and Reader in the Temple; Prebendary of St. Paul's 1667; Canon of Canterbury 1669; Archdeacon of London 1677; Dean of St. Paul's 1678; Bishop of Worcester 1689-99. Wrote *Irenicum* 1659, *Origines Sacrae* 1662, *Origines Britannicae* 1685, and other works.

⁵ Ronald Graham, Esq., of Nunnington. "Madam Grahme" of Nunnington was a "noble and worthy friend of Mrs. Thornton's and godmother to her eighth child Joyce." (*Life of Mrs. Thornton*, pp. 148, 153, 268.)

he will give me a Prebend in Chichester that I may have an honorable occasion thither : the Good Lord grant us a happy Meeting My dear love to *poor heart* who now begins to smile with tears in her eyes. My love to dear Sister. I have received a *most elegant* epistle from honest Robin *very handsome*, in great haste I am

your dutiful and ever obliged Son

Tho : Comber.

London : June 29th 1678.

I always fouled my letters though perhaps forget the date.

40. T.C. TO ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT.¹

Stonegrave Aug : 26

1678

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE

It is a new pleasure to me in that Privacy to which I am now returned to reflect upon the obliging reception which your Grace entertained me withall when I came to pay my just Duty, & if I should pursue my own inclinations I must make such acknowledgments of your Graces condescending Goodnesse as become a Person so highly engaged and so truly thankfull : But since your Grace had rather deserve this then hear it, I am persuaded it will be a more acceptable return for me, to employ my gratefull apprehensions of your Graces favours as incentives to my devotion to the God of heaven for you, then to let them out in such expressions as are very usuall where there are fewer Merits & lesse Occasion : I confesse I am apt to think my selfe happy in the opinion your Grace hath conceived of me, but withall I am conscious to so many of my own infirmities that I cannot but fear least I should not fully anser that fair character, yet I have this advantage from even an undeserved esteem, that it strongly influences my endeavors to be really all that which your Grace beleeves & hopes concerning me; and nothing that ever happened to me (excepting the successes which God hath been pleased to give my attempts) hath given so much encouragement to my studyes as your Graces Notice and approbation, nor afforded me a juster occasion for a particular commemoration in my Acts of Eucharist to him whose Providence hath raised me such a

¹ MS. Tanner, 39, fol. 88.

Patron: My Lord I should account it presumption to trouble your Grace with my concerns if I had not been assured of your particular care of my welfare and by your obliging Permission allowed the freedome to inform your Grace of the businesse of Riton¹ &c. The narrative whereof this letter had contained, but only that I would not enlarge it too much to the interruption of your Weighty affaires especially since I have the advantage of so faithfull and worthy a friend as Mr Lane (to whom I am indebted for the happinesse of being first known to your Grace) to him therefore I shall leave the Relation of all my Matters, to be made at your Grace's best leisure, and detain your Grace no longer, unlesse by all assurances of his daily Prayers for the Direction assistance and blessing of Heaven to be communicated to your Grace, who is

your Graces

in all duty and observance

Tho: Comber.

41. SIR HUGH CHOLMLEY TO THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER²

Jan 7. 78.

MY LORD

I should not have promised the living to M^r Cumber but out of respect to your Lordship and some others, but having passed my word I would not break it, were the solicitations ten times as strong as those that did procure it, and shall be at all times ready to signe the presentation to M^r Cumber, being glad I can serve so worthy a man who am

My Lord

Your faithful and humble

Servant

Jan: the 7th 1678.

H Cholmley.³

¹ It would appear that Comber was angling for the living of Ryton-on-Tyne, a good living in the diocese of Durham. As we have seen he was anxious for a prebendal stall at Durham. Dr. William Cave had just resigned Ryton.

² Dr. Guy Carleton, who was translated from Bristol after Dr. Ralph Brideoake, died 5th October 1678.

³ Sir Hugh Cholmley was the second son of Sir Hugh Cholmley of Whitby, who died in 1657. He married Lady Anne Compton and had one daughter, Anne, who was born in September 1667. Sir Hugh went as engineer to Tangier in 1663. Pepys described him as "a gentleman the most industrious I ever knew." He died in 1689 and was buried in the chancel of the parish church of Whitby.

42. LORD FAUCONBERG TO T.C.

Jan 7. 78.

M^r COMBER,

Your Letter found me confined to my Chamber but I writ to Sir Hugh Cholmley and have an assurance from him that your Presentation to Thornton shall be ready whenever you send for it. In which Place wishing you much joy, and many yeares satisfaction I remaine

Your affectionate Friend
and servant

January 7th

Fauconberg.

43. SIR H. CHOLMLEY TO T.C.

London the 21 Jan.^{ry} 1678.

I had returned my answer sooner to yours but that I was in hopes to meet with some frend, that might give me a more certain address of sending to you, then that which I now do venture upon, recommending at large this letter to the Post of York. I made all the despatch I could to sign the Presentation and hope you will meet no difficulty in enjoying the same, for I think there is no ground for the pretences of others, nor would I injure any man that I thought had a right unto the gift beyond that which I pretend unto. You may be assured had I not all imaginable satisfaction in the choice of your Person, I should [have] more particularly discoursed at the supplying the cure of so considerable a Parish, there being often neglect enough in the case of Pluralitys, but as I think the help of this an addition much les then what you may deserve, so I can satisfy my self you will take all necessary care, and I wish those that come after me may be as circumspect in their choice as I think I have bin, who have no other end but to do the church service, and go on praying God to give you as long, and as happy an enjoyment of Thornton as any other that hath gone before.¹

I remain, Sir

your humble servant

H. Cholmeley.

¹ Christopher Bradley was buried on 3rd January 1678-9. Sir Hugh appointed Comber 11th February of the same year.

44. THE REV WILIAM CAVE TO T.C.

MY GOOD FRIEND

Islington. Feb 22. 1678

I heartily congratulate with you that your lot is fallen in such convenient circumstances. As for my selfe, the troublesomenesse of mine will I believe in a little time force me to reduce things to a short issue, and to quit one, though I know not how to live without both.¹ But I should be less troubled at my own particular case did I not feare that its not like to go well with the Church it selfe, for upon the best view I can make in generall of the severall elections I have heard of I think there may be cause to doubt which way things will go in this Parliament, But *θεὸν ἐν γούνασι ταῦτα*. I would not you should understand me that M^r Brome *absolutely* refused to pay for the Spalato² (for I suppose he did pay for it), but that he wondred a little I should charge it upon him when all accounts were even'd between you. As to your queries the best resolution I can at present give you is as followes.

. . . Rhemish Annotations³ were not *Jesuit*: there being few . . . Jesuits at that time. The work was done by English fugitives [at the] College at Rhemes, erected by the procurement of Dr Allen⁴ (a [Roman] Cardinal) who had himselfe a principal hand in the worke, . . . with Gregory Martin⁵ and Richard Bristow,⁶ all three

¹ Cave had the livings of Islington 1662-89, and Allhallows the Great, London, 1679-89.

² Marc Antonio de Dominis, fourteen years Archbishop of Spalato in Dalmatia, came to England in 1616, was made Dean of Windsor, Master of the Savoy Hospital and Vicar of West Ilsley in Berkshire. In England he revised and corrected his three volumes *De Republica Ecclesiastica* which he had not dared to publish abroad. In England he maintained the rights of national churches, but he left this country in 1622 and recanted.

³ *The Rhemish Annotations* on the Scriptures were written by English Catholic fugitives at the College of Rheims, the college founded originally at Douai by Cardinal William Allen, but transferred to Rheims from 1578 to 1593.

⁴ William Allen (1532-94). B.A. and Fellow, Merton, Oxford, 1550, M.A. 1554. He opened the seminary at Douai in 1568. After 1585 he lived at Rome. He became a Cardinal in 1587, and was, together with Cardinal Colonna, entrusted with the work of revising the text of the Vulgate.

⁵ Gregory Martin was a learned Biblical translator. Graduating at St. John's College, Oxford, he escaped to Douai in 1571 and was ordained priest in 1573. He was one of the translators of the Douai version of the Scriptures and wrote religious works. He died 1582.

⁶ Richard Bristow (1538-81). M.A. Christ Church, Oxford, 1562. Fellow of Exeter College 1567. Priest 1573. Moderator of Studies at Douai and had charge of the seminary at Rheims 1578-81. He published theological works, and assisted in the translation of the Douai version.

(as I take it) . . . *priests*, I'm sure no Jesuits. 2. For BP. Andrews¹ quotat[ion] . . . [men]tion'd not in his *Conc. ad. Cler.*,² but in his Tract *de Decimis*³ it . . . be in the Theodosian code, there being no such Emperor within that compasse of time: and therefore, if any where, must be in that of Justinian, where, Lib 7, there are 8 or 9 titles *de prescriptiōe*, and in one of them 3 lawes of Anastatius, and tho' I have run them all over with great care, yet can I not meet with one word of that cited by the Bishop, which makes me apt to suspect that there must be a mistake somewhere; especially since Mr Selden⁴ (if I forget not) peremptorily affirms (circ. fin. cap 5) that there are no lawes of the Eastern Emperors of this time that so much as mention tithes in an Ecclesiastic sense. However the Emperor you enquire of can be no other then Anastasius *Dicorus*,⁵ the Great patron of the Acephali,⁶ who entred upon the Empire circ. An 490: there being no other of that name before Justinian. For the 3^d I believe Bede's history not to be materially corrupted, and if it be the suspected passages may be easily examin'd by comparing them with the Saxon translation of King Alfred, which being done in the next age to Bede, his history cannot be suppos'd to be interpolated before: and I remember Bp Jewell somewhere *convinces* an unsound passage by appealing to the Saxon version,⁷ then in MSS. Nor can I call to mind that such

¹ Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626). One of the most learned Anglican divines. Bishop of Chichester 1605, Ely 1609, Winchester 1619-26.

² *Sacrilege a Snare*. A Sermon preached *ad Clerum* in the University of Cambridge. Translated for the benefit of the public 1646.

³ *Theologica Determinatio de Decimis*. Of the Right of Tithes. A Divinity Determination in the public Divinity Schools of Cambridge. Translated. London 1647.

⁴ Selden's *History of Tithes*, 1618, p. 65, the last sentence of Chapter V.

⁵ Anastasius of Dyrrachium, became Roman Emperor in 491. He died in 518.

⁶ Acephali—a branch of the Monophysites who rejected the decrees of the Council of Chalcedon 451 A.D., and also the *Henoticon* issued by the Emperor Zeno in 482 A.D. Peter Mongus, the Monophysite patriarch of Antioch, subscribed the latter, and therefore many of his party, especially monks, separated from him and were called Acephali. They were condemned by a Synod at Constantinople 536 as schismatics who sinned against the Church, the pope and the emperor.

⁷ Cave's memory is at fault here. There is no such passage in Jewel's work. In his *Controversy with Harding*, he tried to make out, without actually saying so, that in Bede's time the service was in English, or alternatively that no one attended the Latin services. He also tried to deduce from Bede that the Scriptures had been translated into five languages in Britain in early days, but he asks, "Who is able to show any book written in English a thousand years ago who is able to understand it?" (*Jewel's Works*, Parker Society, Jewel and Harding, PP. 302, 694-5.)

interpolations are by any learned men usually charged upon Bede's history. If you desire more either concerning these matters or anything else that I can do, you may freely use the utmost service of
your truly loving friend and brother

W^m Cave

This, for the Rev^d D^r Thomas [Comber]

Rector of Stonegrave.

To be left at M^r W[ayne's]

neer the Minster, York.

45. T.C. TO LORD FRESHVILLE.¹

March : 10th 1678.

MY LORD,

That excellent speech of my Lord Treasurer I have got a Copy of in writing at least a fortnight before your Lordship sends it me so kindly in print² and had read it to my mother who was much pleased with it, and we communicated several Transcripts of it to our prejudic'd Neighbours, and truly I was thinking to put it in print myselfe, to make it more public, and remove, if possible, that false opinion which my lords enemys have begot of him in the minds of too many, for I do truly believe him innocent, and guilty principally of only being great, and the envy of great ones hath set lesser wheels on work to procure his ruine. But I know nothing that hath disgusted more private Gentlemen hereabouts, then the generall belief that his lordships interest remooved those two usefull Country Justices, whom therefore I would so fain have seen restored by his interest³ alone, and I feared that his Lordships greatnesse and integrity might make him apt to despise lesser though numerous disgusted Persons. However I have not omitted in my humble capacity to do his lordship all the good offices I can, and I think

¹ *Memoirs*, pp. 119-24.

² *Two Letters from Mr. Montagu, Together with the Lord Treasurer's Speech in the House of Peers*. December 23rd 1678. Danby was impeached in December 1678 during the last few days of the Restoration Long Parliament, but he did not surrender himself till April 15th 1679.

³ See January 29th, 1677-8, note.

have convinced most of those I converse with, that it was a French and Popish design to start this accusation; the French hoping thereby either to remove their single Enemy the Lord Treasurer; or their body of Enemyes the Parliament; and the Papists hoping if it tooke, the fury of the House of Commons would be spent upon private revenge, and the prosecution of the plot diverted, or if it did not that, it might make Faction between the two Houses, or disgust the King so highly as to prorogue or dissolve them. And what counsel could the infernall pit have invented more unlucky at such a Juncture. This I hope begins to be so far Perceived that the next Parliament will lay aside all private prosecutions; and fall close to his Majesty's and the Nation's businesse, viz.: to supply him and secure us, who I assure your Lordship, (whatever be the opinion of the Court) think our selves in extreme danger, both with respect to foreign and domestic affairs; and we shall freely part with liberall supplies so we may be secured (as far as good ships and good Laws can do it) against both.

That any should doubt of the just condemnation of those that have suffered¹ seems somewhat strange, the evidence being cleer, confirmed by Papers, and many circumstances, so that the whole Parliament, Judges, Jury, and all concerned in the Examination believed it, and so doth my Lord Treasurer, as appears by his speech. And for the only Objection, that the Partys denied it, no other could be expected, public and defeated villany being disown'd ever by them who hatche while secret and would have gloryed in it if it had prospered. And that very principle which led them to design this treason (viz: the interest of their Party here) would naturally lead them to deny it: and the same Dispensation and Indulgence which allowed the Commission of these crimes, might to themselves, (who believed in them) allow of such denial. If they had been of a party of men who had not been actually guilty of such things formerly here or elsewhere, we might have been doubtfull of the accusation, but their principles and Practices give all the credibility imaginable to the testimonys against them and I pray God our unwillingnesse to believe so probable an Indictment may not enable them to do us further mischief, and I doubt 'tis one great inducement to the Fanatic rage against the Church's Friends, that their Charity

¹ The victims of the popish plot.

makes them too slow of belief in this matter, and too remisse in the prosecution. Alas, my Lord, whatever pretences the Romanists may make to draw us in to shield them from what they deserve, 'tis certaine they do account us the worst of Protestants because our principles are the solidest and we the best able to defend them, and 'tis our ruine they chiefly seek, the Fanatics being a divided head-lesse crue, sand without lime, who would soon crumble one another to dust, and can it be prudence in us to disoblige dissenting Protestants, only to preserve those whose very zeal engageth them to seek our destruction. I wish the Churches Friends might consider this, and not under a pretence of fearing Rebellion from the sects, divert those Laws, and that Justice which would appease that party, and make the more dangerous party, and more likely to do great mischief, incapable of executing their intentions: And 'tis to be feared, that if we do seem, or are on good grounds suspected to favour the acused Persons, we may excite a popular tumult against us, which will involve us and them in one common fate: which God avert!

I most humbly crave your Lordship's pardon for this freedom which my zeale for your Lordship's and the Churches safety,¹ puts me upon, if I be mistaken my distance must excuse me, and want of right information, but I think it cannot be that his Majesty (at this time), or the Nation, and especially the Church of England should be in such danger from the sects as from the Romanists, by moderate penalties on whom he will oblige all his People, and secure the Church, and surely none can think it fit to strengthen one sort of enemyes, and enrage the other, by one and the same compliance or indulgence: which whosoever advised his majesty to now, can scarce be sincerely his friends: The most affectionate duty off all here are tendred to your Lordship, with all assurances of our Prayers for your Lordships safety and direction are given by

My Lord
Your lordships &c.
T.C.

March 10th 167⁸₉.

¹ During the past year T.C. "had collected a large body of facts, and the evidence of persons of the first credit, to prove the disposition of the Papists in his neighbourhood to rise, if any occasion should present itself that should favour their designs . . . He thought the impeachment of the Lord Treasurer, and the plots of the Papists, were one and the same grand design." (*Memoirs*, p. 119.)

46. J. LAKE¹ TO T.C.July 16th, 79

SIR,

I return you your papers with many thanks both in mine own and the clergyes name. I have laboured under so many indispositions since they came to my hands that I could not give them so [careful?] a peruseall as I desired. However I read them once cursorily over lying upon my bed, or otherwise as my indisposition would give leave, and intended them a more serious notice if your recalling them had not prevented. As a pledg hereof I send the inclosed which I intended not to come (thus evidently at least) to your view and crave your excuse for the freedom which I have taken with you. I shall make my further Apology at our meeting and in the mean time hope you will take well what is well meant by

Sir

your truly affectionate friend
brother and servant

Jo : Lake.

Sir, one sheet from p. 112 to 129 is wanting, but I suppose it came not to my hands.

For the Rev^{ed} D^r Thomas
Comber these.

47. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.²

Feb 19.

SIR,

You are not mistaken in Sir Hugh Chomleyes freindship for [you?] though he [lives?] very farre from me yet he hath beene ofter then once to finde me and yesterday we mett. He tells me he

¹ John Lake, St. John's, Cambridge. Vicar of Leeds 1660; D.D. Cambridge 1661; Prebendary of York 1671; Bishop of Sodor and Man 1684; Bishop of Chichester 1685. Died 1689.

² Although this letter is dated in the Durham transcript 1674-5, it is evidently of a much later date. In March 1679 Charles II sent James Duke of York out of the Kingdom. The latter went to Brussels and returned to London in August at the news of the King's illness. Shortly afterwards he was ordered to Scotland. Commanded to return in 1680 he was sent back again, and remained there till 1682. The letter can hardly refer to his final return because Freschville died March 31st 1682 and must therefore refer to the first recall from Scotland in 1680. Reresby

hathe better acquaintance with the Deane¹ then with the Bishop of Chichester² and he thinkes it more probable that deare D^r should have Interest with your . . . then the Bishop who hath been there but a short time : so he will write to him to prepare a wellcome for you. If the Bishop come hither I can ingage him heere, and if not I will write to him. The Duke is dayly expected here by Sea and the Kinge is resolved to part no more with him, because he sees no good effects of his absence. I hope my deare neece Thornton and all hers have good health and for my owne I praise God I am almost recovered of a long fitt of the Gowte and am able once more to use my Legges. With my faithfull and deare respects to you all, I am Sir

Yours most affectionately to serve you
J. Freschville.

48. SIR H. CHOLMELY TO T.C.

Fulham March 30th 1680

The enclosed from the Dean of Chichester being an answer to yours, I thought fit to communicate, by which you will perceive no necessary care hath been wanting for your service, nor doth it seem to me that any further step can be made at present, when you come to town you may consider how far the hopes may wourth your own journey to Chichester, when I am sure you may promise your self all the service that is in the Deans power, and more I have not in answer to yours who am

Sir

your humble servant
H Cholmely

tells us how in March 1679-80 the Duke returned from Scotland and that the King had said nothing should separate them in future. He was probably repeating Court gossip, because, as stated above, James returned to Scotland. The reference to Cholmely's friendship is not altogether clear, because the latter had given Comber the living of Thornton already. It was evidently thought that Sir Hugh's influence might be effective at Chichester. We may therefore date this letter February 19th 1679-80. (Reresby, *Memoirs* March 1679-80.)

¹ George Stradling. D.D., was Dean of Chichester 1672-88.

² The Bishop of Chichester was Dr. Guy Carleton, who had been translated thither from Bristol in 1678.

49. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Stavely the 29th of August 1680

SIR

My Indisposition is such that I have not hitherto beene in condition to come to Yorke since I came into the Country above six weeks agoe, but my wife was there uppon some occasions of mine 2 nights the last weeke. My Infirmitie is the strangury in extremity and no Remedyes availe any thinge, nor indeed will the Phisitions pretend to give any, but yet my health thanke God continues hitherto beyond expectation. In hopes that I may yet doe his Maiesty some small service at Yorke I desire you will doe me favour to ingage the worthy minister of Sutton¹ to inquire of his neighbour Harland why he does not offer to sell his Pattent of Keeping the mannor house at Yorke² since it does him no good to keepe it. The truth is I will give him somethinge for it and I am assured that he will never be suffered to keepe the Mannor notwithstanding his Pattent because it will be always made use of for the service of the Kinge and Kingedom.

Thus you will oblige
your most faithfull and affectionate Uncle

J Freschville

My service to my deare neece.

For my Reverent and
worthy freind Doctor
Thomas Cumber at
East Newton

¹ The minister of Sutton, if Sutton-on-the-Forest is meant, was Dr. John Burton who was Vicar there 1669-1690.

² The King's Manor, outside Bootham Bar at York, was originally the house of the Abbot of St. Mary's, York. At the Dissolution it was taken over by the Crown for the purpose of an occasional northern residence. The Lord President of the Council of the North made his abode there and successive Lord Presidents, and especially the Earl of Huntingdon and the Earl of Strafford, repaired and largely rebuilt the house. After the Council of the North was abolished the building was for a time committed to a Keeper. Shortly after the Restoration Captain Richard Harland, an old royalist officer, was appointed to the Keepership. On 8th May 1665, however, the King ordered that Henry Parry should be put into the office and that Harland should depute him to receive all the profits of the office. This is why Harland's patent for the office was doing him no good. The Governor of York, Lord Freschville, and after him Sir John Reresby, seem to

50. THE REV. WM. CAVE TO T.C.¹

SIR,

Long look'd for is come at last. I am asham'd tis so late but knew [not] well how to help it. Your papers came at an ill time of the yeare [when we] are generally dispers'd and scattered, and oft see not one anothers faces from Midsummer till Michaelmas. M^r Williams² and my selfe have been both out of town, and I sometimes sicke. I was almost two months before I could meet with him, and then we conferr'd together and I gave him the papers home and he return'd his mind in this inclos'd note, and he has so fully express'd my sence that I need say little. Your reasons seem not weighty enough to checke so good a design. You need not fear 'twill beat out of request the larger worke, which will allways beare up its price and value with men learned and curious, who cannot well be without it [and those] who most want such a book, I mean the ordinary sort of people, cannot purchase it, [and if] they would, have not time to read it. If it can be contriv'd to be afforded [at] 3^s, 'twill be an indifferent price, and the book-sellers must be oblig'd to do it as cheap as may be, and the great number that will be vended will countervaille the lowness of the price, especially if (what I hope may be compassed) a stock of charity could be rais'd to buy in all, or a good part of the impression, and give them gratis to poore families: And for their sakes the planer it is done the better. To comply with all your requests I went over to Lambeth, and acquainted my Lord of Canterbury with the design, who very well approv'd of it, and hopes it may do a great deale of good. And so I doubt not it will, if God have not fatally given up this poore Church and

have lived there. On December 12th 1683 Resesby was informed officially that the house could not be sold, a question which had long been in suspense. In 1687 the house was granted for thirty-one years to Henry Lawson, Esq., son of Sir John Lawson of Brough, on behalf of a relative, Father Lawson, who was to establish a Roman Catholic School there. A large room was fitted up as a chapel, and it was thither Bishop Smith was proceeding when Danby seized his crozier. (*The King's Manor, York*, by J. Stewart Syme. *Yorks. Arch. Journ.*, xxxvi. 374.)

¹ The Durham copy of this letter is very defective. I have suggested, in brackets, possible readings in the case of the missing words.

² Mr. Williams—the Rev. John Williams (1636?-1709); B.A. Magdalen Hall, Oxford, 1655; M.A. 1658; D.D. Cambridge 1690; Rector of St. Mildred's in the Poultry; Prebendary of St. Paul's 1683; Chaplain-in-ordinary to William and Mary; Prebendary of Canterbury; Bishop of Chichester 1696-1709. Author of various controversial works and published sermons (*Ath. Ox.* II, 1120).

Nation to an irrevocable destruction. I am very sensible tis a worke of great trouble, but that must be ballanc'd with a design of doing [good.] At leisure houres I entertain my wife with your last booke about Tythes,¹ which . . . I read with great pleasure, but am sorry you have so trifling an adversary [to] contend with. As for the peice of Father Paul, I find now I much question whether it be genuine. I beleive 'twas a rude draught, found among his papers, drawn up by him without any design of being made public, and therefore done more loosely and carelessly. I have according to your direction return'd these papers by M^r Clavell, which when they will come to your hands I know not, which that they may speedily is the desire of

Your very true friend and brother,
W^m Cave.

Islington. Sept. 11, 1680.
My service to your fireside

51. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Feb 20th

SIR

This day in the Parliament house the Arch-bishop of Yorke at my Lord Treasurer's request hath bestowed upon you the Prebendary of Yorke which the late Deane² held. I fear it is not very valuable but I hope it may be of some satisfaction to you, and the ArchBishop says that you may either come up for the Confirmation of it now at London or let it rest till his Grace retournes into the Country. I writt to my deare neece Thornton by the last Post to whom I present my service and to all hers and yours, for, I am faithfully

Sir, yours to serve you
J. Fresheville.

¹ *The Right of Tithes Reasserted*. 1680. The MS. referred to in this letter must be that of *The Historical Vindication of the Divine Right of Tithes* which came out in the following year, or else *Religion and Loyalty Supporting Each Other*, which came out also in 1681; the latter being much less likely.

² Dean should be sub-dean. The person referred to was Dr. George Tully and the prebend was Fenton, which Tully had resigned on appointment to the prebend of Strensall. Comber took some time to consider the offer.

52. DR. J. LAKE TO T.C.

March 1st (80)

SIR

I have had so many diversions since I last saw you at York, that I could not redeem time to review your papers, much lesse to give them that consideration which I would. Some little things I have enclosed here rather to show my good will, and to be a pledg that I perused your papers, then that they signify anything, for the main no doubt you have made your point, and very much obliged the commonwealth both of Religion and Learning. But whether the [? custom] did not sometimes prevail so far, that Tithes were disposed not only contrary to their nature and design, but without the Bishop's consent and confirmation I cannot tell, which yet notwithstanding overthrows the Divine right of Tithes, or the opinion which the religiously wise, in all ages, had of it, no more then the frequent and constant transgressions of God's law may be alledged in prejudice of its Divine Sanction. And seeing men are apt to put upon their Conscience, and to contradict their principles with their practises, even those now persuaded of the Divine right of Tithes, might do somethings in pursuance thereof, which are now pleaded to infringe it. Certainly you have said all that the case admitted, and whom this doth not satisfy nothing will. I heartily wish a more encouraging time to make it publick, and in the mean time give you my hearty thanks for the free communication of it to

(Sir) Your honouring friend, brother and servant

Jo: Lake.

53. THE REV. WM. CAVE TO T.C.¹S^r

I have read over your papers with as much care & exactnesse as the time & my other businesses would permit. I discern in them (what all that read them must acknowledge the traies of a very diffuse reading & an indefatigable industry & am of the opinion. you have fully & unanswerably cleerd the case. I cannot see anything that deserves animadversion, pag. 33, you seem to make community of

¹ In possession of the editor.

goods in J. Martyrs &c. time greater than was the usage of those ages. For tho they rais'd a common stock for Church uses & some particular persons might consecrat the whole of their estat yet I believe generally they reserved the main in their own hands. pag 40 you place the council of Gangra¹ (as vulgarly 'tis) Ann 324 when as it cannot with any tolerable pretence be sooner than 340: & perhaps was some years later. Indeed the time of that Synod is strangely uncertain & strange to me it is that S. Basil who had such & so many bickerings with Eustathius, deposd in that Synod (for that it was the same Eustathius I make no question, notwithstanding what Baronius says to the contrary) should make no mention at all of that council had it been held so many years before. But this is a matter of no great moment, tho perhaps the smallest oversight may creat you more trouble from your nibbling adversaries, then greater mistaks. I intended according to yo^r direction to have put the papers into D^r Beveridges hands. But I considered 'tis but a small part of the book, wherein I suppose you principally desire his censure, & that he is usually at this time of the year out of town, & besides I understand by M^r Clavel that you desire dispatch, so I have returnd them into his hands with my hourly pray^r that they may prosper to the ends for which they are design'd. I have no more to trouble you with at this time, but the assurance that I am
Islington. June 14. 1681. Yo^r most affectionate friend & B^r

W^m Cave.

Endorsed

D^r W^m Cave

to

Doctor Comber

Jun 14. 1681

with critical remarks

on some Papers of D^r

Comber's, sent to him

for that purpose.

¹ The Council of Gangra may have been held as late as 380. St. Basil who attacked Eustathius says nothing about his condemnation by that Council. Basil died in 379, so the Council may have been held just before his death, or soon after. It seems agreed to-day that the Eustathius of Sebastia whom St. Basil attacked was the same person who was condemned at the Council. Socrates and Sozomen say distinctly that he was. Basil's brother Peter became Bishop of this Sebastia in Armenia in 380, which suggests that Eustathius had been deposed that year or the year before.

54. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.¹

June 26. 1681.

WORTHY AND REV. SIR

The fame of your worth and goodnesse hath drawn mee into these parts havinge a greate ambition to be personally acquainted with you, who have been soe kind a friend to the *incomparable liturgy of the Church of England*. I did hope to have had the happinesse of being your auditour this day at Stonegrave, and to have joyn'd with you in the publick worship and devotions of the day: but your care of your other Church hath deprived me of that satisfaction; and unlesse your health and occasions will permit you to bee at Newton to-morrow morning by ten of the clock (where I shall not faile to waite on you) I shall misse of the cheife part of the pleasure which I propose to myselfe in this journey, being under some obligation to be at Yorke tomorrow night. I will give you no further trouble than to assure you, *I am a hearty lover of you*, (though unknown to you) and such an one as will always bee ready to expresse himselfe (Rev. Sir)

your most faithful servant
and affectionate brother
Dennis Grenville²

Helmsley

June 26. 1681.

55. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

London the 27 of June.³

SIR,

If preferment does not come as you and your freinds could wish do not impute it to their backwardnesse to serve you, for I can

¹ *Memoirs*, pp. 40-41. Not in the *Letters of Denis Granville*, Surtees Soc.

² Denis Grenville, later known as Granville; Exeter College, Oxford; D.D. 1671; Incumbent of Kilhampton 1661; Archdeacon of Durham and Rector of Easington 1662; Rector of Elwick 1662-67; Rector of Sedgfield 1667; Dean of Durham 1684. A Non-juror at the Revolution, he followed James into exile in 1691 and died in Paris in 1703.

³ Raine's Index gives the date of this letter as June 27th 1682, but Freschville was dead before that date. It is here placed as being of the year 1681.

assure you my My Lord Treasurer is as desirous to doe it as ever and he understands how meane a thinge that Prebend at York is, and it was no preiudice to you for a better preferment to obtaine that. All those preferments you mention of Windesore Eaton and Westminster my Lord Treasurer hath enquired after them and findes them all forestalled, and I assure you the Bishop of London (especially) and many other Bishops take it very ill that his Lordship or any body else should meddle in Church preferment: therefore let freinds be never so good there must be patience in the case. I hope reports of my going into Ireland and of Sir Christopher Wandesford are without any manner of grounds or . . . and I believe he is worse by £1800 or £2000 for his winter quarter in London: With my Service to my deare neice and all hers

I am, Sir

Yours most faithfully to serve you

J Fresheville

About the time of the Assizes I hope to be in York.

56. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

York : July 6th. 1681

MY LORD

Your Graces many & weighty Cares forbid me to trouble you, but on great occasion, and when that offers it selfe your wonted goodnesse invites me to beg your favour. I gratefully remember & own the honour your Grace did me in first making me known (with speciall marks of your Graces kindnesse) to my L: of Durham, who may in a short time do me that kindnesse which your Grace was pleased to think the most proper for me being fixt in the North, there are like to be 4 Preb: of Durham void in a shorte time: and D^r Brevint, D^r Greenvile & some others have expressed great desires of my advancement into their Body: & some of them have offered to engage some of their great friends to moove my L: of Durham in that affair with respect to me. Now if your Grace would so far

¹ In the possession of the editor. *The Memoirs* (p. 147) say: "There is a copy in his own handwriting of a letter he addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury." This is probably the copy referred to.

honour me as to write a few lines to my Lord of Durham, though but in generall to give me a fair Character to that Bishop, I doubt not but it will be a great Means to obtain his Lordships good opinion of me, & wonderfully promote this courteous design of my other friends: Your Graces constant respects to me is my only Apology for this presumption, which I hope your Grace will pardon, & if your Grace will please to do me so singular a favour; I shall ever be obliged to pray for your Spirituall, temporall & eternall happinesse & shall always approve, as well as subscribe my selfe

My Lord

Your Grace's dutifull & faithfull
servant.

Tho: Comber.

57. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO THE EARL OF BATH¹

Alcester in Warwickshire July 7th 81.

DEAR BROTHER²

We are very like to have a Prebend or two very speedily vacant in the Church of Durham; and I have some reason to imagine, that your concurrence in procuring it for D^r Comber a person of great Eminence and worth will be required by my Lord Fletchfield³ and some considerable friends of the Earl of Danby, who is so great a Patron of the Doctors, that, had hee not fallen under a cloud, hee had long since fixt him in as considerable a station in the Church as the Doctor deserves. I do presume to joyn with these noble Persons in their request, declaring freely, but in good conscience, that D^r Comber is the Man of England, that I could wish might bee the first Prebend of Durham, being not only calculated by his way of Study, for the Meridian of our Diocese, but the most fit man to bee a Support and Comfort to mee in the Execution of my Office which sometimes becomes a little burthensome to mee for want of

¹ Not in the Granville *Letters* (Surtees Soc.).

² The Durham transcript begins "Dear Sir." The *Memoirs*, p. 242, "Dear Brother."

³ Freschville.

some zealous, stable and thorough paced Churchmen. Such a man of himself I am sure wee have not in the Country and I think very difficult to be found in all England. This opinion that I have of him, is not singular, hee having gained a multitude of lovers and disciples among the most considerable Persons of the Nation by his admirable discourses upon our Liturgy, wherein hee has without doubt succeeded the most happily of any other. To proclame the high love and esteeme (nay even the Veneration which I have for him) how far it may bee serviceable to him, I am not well assured, but this I am certain of, that no man can have a more justifiable zeale for the preferment of any man, than I have for his; and whether or no I succeed in appearing for him, better than I have done in any endeavours for others, (I having been, I think, one of the most unsuccessful persons of England in preferring friends) yet I shall have much satisfaction from having delivered my soule in contributing the best I can to so good a work. My great friendship for D^r Comber I am apt to think an act of vertue because I had it for him, before ever I saw him, the reading of his books, which were my constant Companions while I was in France, created in me an extraordinary love and respect for the Author, and a very earnest desire to be acquainted with him, which I could never accomplish till this Journey towards Alcester where my wife¹ hath remained since my coming into England. I rid a day or twos Journey out of my way to give him a visit, who did very kindly receive mee, tho' I was a perfect stranger unto him, and had no body to introduce mee. And I am now convinced that his worth is above all the fame that I had heard of him; none can give you more particular assurance thereof than my lord Fletchville and the Earl of Danby. The Arch Bishopp of Canterbury hath alsoe a very great regard for him; indeed so much, that there is no doubt, but that hee might be preferred in a short while somewhere or other in England, but the thing that hee, and all his frends desire for him, is that hee might have a prebend in Durham hee having married into a very worthy family in those parts, and being possessed of a living neare the Bishopprick which makes a preferment in that Church of all others the most fit for him: Hee has been recommended already very advantageously to our Bishopp, and he seems to have a very kind respect for him; but

¹ Granville married a daughter of Bishop Cosin.

preferments in our Church are so much sought after, that without some extraordinary and very prevalent Intercession, they cannot bee procured for any person. I am apt to believe, that the Bishopp has so much kindnesse for him, that he would not be displeased to have some powerful solicitations on his behalfe, that hee might bestow it upon him without disobliging lesser pretenders. I repeat my humble and earnest desires that if any of his friends request your countenance and assistance that you would be pleased kindly to afford them. I do assure my selfe you will have much comfort from so good a piece of service to the Church, hee being an extraordinary champion for a Liturgy, which is the chiefe ground for my hearty zeale for him. I cannot deny but the fixing of so usefull a person (a man after mine own heart) in the Bishopprick of Durham, would be a high gratification of mee: that great help and ease which I should have from such a friend (that I had obliged), in doing my duty, would capacitate mee much better to attend unto my secular concerns, and so avoid for the future, the scandall which I have by chance given to the world by too much neglect of them. Sir, I beseech you to take these things into consideration. By your kindnesse to such good men you will secure for yourself and family a good share in such devotions, as shall be offered up at God's Altar. The good fruit whereof, our Family, I trust, has had no small experience; for God's great goodnesse towards us (which has been very remarkable in the worst of times) seems to have been bestowed upon us, for our Forefathers love to Church and Churchmen. I dare bee very positive in this, for it is within my own sphere. With my hearty prayers to God, that we may all continue to have the same Interest in God's blessed providence and protection in all future tryales and tymes of perill which seeme to threaten us I rest

Dear Sir

your most faithfull

humble servant and

affectionate Brother.

D.G.

58. T.C. TO ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT¹July 11th 1681.

MY LORD,

Your Grace's weighty affairs forbid me to take that freedom which your kindnesse allowed me, nor would I presume to give your Grace the trouble of a letter, but on a great occasion: I cannot but gratefully remember and own the honour your Grace did me in first making me known to my L. of Durham, who may shortly do me that kindnesse which your Grace judged the most proper of all other for me with respect to my Northern station, for there are three or four Prebends of that Church vacant and like to be so shortly (one by the death of your Grace's friend the learned Dean of Middleham)² and Dr Greenvil with some other of the surviving Prebendary's have been so kind as to expresse their wishes I were one of that body and to offer to engage some considerable friends of theirs to moove my L of Durham in that affair, which courteous design of these worthy Men would be greatly promoted if your Grace would please to bestow a few lines of generall recommendation of me to the Bishop of Durham for your Graces Character would doubtless go very far in procuring his Lsps good opinion of me: Your Graces great respectes are the only encouragement to make this request and the only Apology for it, which therefore I humbly leave before your Grace, with the assurance that it shall be my constant endeavour to deserve whatever good Character you please to give of

My Lord

your Graces most obliged and dutifull
son and servant
Tho: Comber.

Stonegrave: July 11th 1681.

I have now in the presse a perfect history of Tithes with remark's on Mr Selden's mistakes &c. of which Dr Cave will give your Grace an account shortly.

¹ MS. Tanner, xxxvi, f. 70.² William Holdsworth. M.A.; was Dean of Middleham 1660-81 and preb. of the ninth stall at Durham 1675-81. Henry Bagshaw, D.D., succeeded to the prebend in 1681.

59. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Doncaster July 13. 1681.

REVEREND AND WORTHY SIR

I have laboured with a great deale of zeale to order my affairs in Warwickshire that I might have both seene and heard you to morrow, and in order thereunto. But however I cannot accomplish this my honest designe, being in some respects obliged to take another rode. To give you some assurance that I have been mindfull of you, since I saw you, and that I am none of the coolest of your friends and Servants, I make bold to send you a copy of a letter which I writ, (since) to my brother the Earle of Bathe, to engage him to joyne with any of your great friends, which shall appeare for you. What successe it may have I cannot tell, but I am sure that I have therein a very honest and good meaning, both in Reference to yourself and the Church. I writ a Letter likewise to a certain Countesse, to buy your Books, and who may sometimes speake a kind word for you. Sir, I pray, that you will, (if you have not done it already,) addresse your self to my Lord Frecheville, and the Earl of Danby, that they may make some such Applications to my Brothers as my Letter doth intimate, you may censure mee for the length and familiarity of the Letter, but you must consider it is to a brother, to whom I am accustomed to write in this Stile. When any thing else comes into my thoughts, wherein I may bee any ways serviceable to you I shall not faile to put it into Execution. I am in hast, consider, and accept of this new book, and pray for

your faithfull friend
and humble servant
Denis Grenville

I desire you to . . . and to returne mee my Copy.

My most faithfull service to your lady and your worthy family at Newton. Mr Basire desires the like.

60. DR. BREVINT TO LORD FRESCHVILLE

Durham, 16 July 1681.

MY LORD. It is with much joy and comfort that I received your letter, when I was much perplexed where to write to M^r Frogat,¹ or to any one about Stavely, who could give us better assurance then wee had of your Lordship's life and health; which some frivolous reports seemed to question, and did most really with their frivolousnesse disguste us. My Lord, I am not much acquainted with Doctor Cumber, but I doe know enough of his worth to wish him in our Society, and to thinke myselfe happy if in any measure I could be instrumentall on this account towards both his and our reall satisfaction. . Onely I am sorry that at this time I cannot perceive to this purpose any present possibility. I know that besides D^r Bagshaw, who shall be installed the next month in the roome of the Deane of Midlam, our Bishop intends to give the next Prebend that shall be vacant to his nephew M^r Montaigne, and the next to it, when it falls to one D^r Cave,² a great favourite of his: so that I doubt the recommendation from any person, how great soever, will hardly take him off from these two known engagements. However I am sure no letter will doe it, and if the Princesse Anne were pleased to doe so much, personall applications this winter at St James' may be more effectuell than any letters. As for our long intended journey to Stavely, som unlucky circonstances, besides expectation of friends this next month, have so disturbed our measures, that we are not able to fix any time to our dearly wisht happinesse of waiting. so soone as wee hoped, upon your Lordship and my Lady, to whom, with my poore wife and daughter, I am, with most due and sincere respects, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble
and most obedient servant
Dan Brevint

Endorsed, D^r Dan. Brevint's Letter
to Lord Frescheville

¹ John Froggatt of Staveley. He had a son, Godfrey Froggatt, born 1673, who afterwards entered Queens' College, Cambridge.

² Cave was never a prebendary of Durham. He was made a canon of Windsor in 1684.

61. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Durham. July 18th 1681. 7 of the clock in the Evening
 REVEREND AND DEARE SIR

Yours of the 16th which I received last night at my Parsonage of Easington brought me hither this morning, A day sooner than I intended. The Employment which you have recommended to mee was in all respects very acceptable whether I consider it as a probable piece of service to yourself D^r Brevint and the worthy young Gentleman,¹ and family, of both whom you give soe large a character. I did immediately upon my Arrivall here, addresse my selfe, Jointly, to my ever honoured and kind friends D^r Brevint and his Lady, making use of the liberty which you gave mee, in mentioning you as the Proposer of this Inquiry. Tho I find the D^r willing to hearken to noe Proposall whatsoever concerning the marriage of his Daughter, for the space of a yeare, or some such time (Hee being noe favourer of young marriages) yet your and my honest Intentions were civilly and kindly received by him, and his lady, who gave me leave to say: That the young Lady is not ingaged, I am sure; and that her Fortune which will be in mony, will be five thousand pounds; (fix'd I think). And now for other particulars. Being noe stranger to the Intrigues of D^r Brevint's family nor Master of much time at Present (the Buisnesse of our grand chapter approaching) I will venture without further enquiry to reply to them out of mine own head. First for her Person; tho she bee Browne (or Black, if you please) yet I conceive her Lovely, and worthy of any Gentleman in England: as for her naturall Temper, (where of I have had great Experience from her very cradle) I can say it is excellent: she hath been ever, a very exemplary, good natured, Dutyfull, and modest child; which hath created in mee so much Affection for her, that were I A young man (give mee leave to bee pleasant) I should cozen your Yorkshire Woer. In reallity, Sir, shee gives great hopes of Proving a very good wife: which if shee doth not, I'll trust no more of her Sex: I am sure of this that if she proves otherwise and [contrary to?] our expectations, shee will be one of the most Inexcusable young Ladies in England, having enjoyed the happy conduct of soe wise and Discreet Parents.

¹ This was one of the Wandesfords and almost certainly Christopher, now aged 25 years, the son of Sir Christopher (1628-87). The proposed wedding never came off.

She hath had (tho seldom from her good Mothers elbow) all reasonable advantages of Education : she hath a very good voice : sings with Judgement, and Dances very well and gracefully. I could inlarge likewise on her good Quallities : But since there will be no answer given to any proposall of marriage, yet for some months, It will be timely enough for us to discourse of these, and other things, at our Meeting here in the month of September, on which I do absolutely rely, and for which satisfaction I doe wait with great impatience. As concerning your inquiry : what her present Fortune may be at her marriage; my thoughts are these, that the D^r (who can if he please pay all on the nayle), upon so advantageous A match (as you propose, when seasonable) will be very easily persuaded so to doe, tho' I have no commission to say more than halfe. All that I shall say farther, is that I conceive your Proposall doth please them, tho they act with great warinesse and circumspection : I am sure it relishes soe well with mee : that both you and that most noble Family you appeare for (tho unknown to mee) may be assured of the most hearty services of

Sir

Your most humble servant

Faithful Friend and affectionate

Brother

Denis Grenville

Since I came to Durham I am informed that my Brother Bern[ard]¹ is on the Roade towards this place. When he comes I will endeavour to ingage him for you. I am told alsoe since I came that Dr Bagshaw is to succeed Dean Holdsworth : and that hee is expected here to-morrow to bee Installed. I shall watch carefully for an opportunity to speake to Judge Dolben and D^r Brevint giving you his service. Hee lately received A Letter from My Lord F(reschville) on your behalf and he hath very kindly moved the Bishopp concerning you.

My most humble service to your lady and worthy Relations. I will be your Monitour when there is any likelihood of any other vacancy.

¹ Bernard Granville was the second surviving son of Sir Bevil Grenville who was killed in the Civil War at Lansdown fight. The eldest son John was created Earl of Bath at the Restoration. The youngest of the three sons was Denis, the archdeacon. Bernard was one of the Grooms of the Bedchamber to Charles II and died in 1701.

62. JOSEPH LANE TO T.C.

19th July 1681.

REVEREND SIR.

Your inclosed I delivered yesterday to my Lord of Canterbury, who is very ready to doe you any respect but cannot serve you in your desires at present, and for the future will be mindfull of you saies the Bishop will have his own way, and as to Sir John Benet he is out of toune and hath been some considerable time said to be gone with his Lady to the Bath and his returne uncertaine, blessed be God wee are all in indifferent health except my daughter for whom I desire your praiers, the rest is presentment of dues to your worthy self and familie from me and mine who am

Sir

your most affectionate
and respect[ful] Brother and servant
Jos. Lane.

DEAR BROTHER

For fear of failure I got Father yesterday to write the above, could I have found a tolerable messenger to Lambeth I had staid at home who hath never been there since your last errand to him. But however I Refused a Fee yesterday that I might be there before prayers and was very complaisant and so was the old Gentleman at dinner and after dinner also, your D^r Durell was also with us, nor did I present your letter till there was occasion given of your good Character by his Grace and the Dean¹ who is going to France for health and his Grace beleeves will never Return, as soon as he looked on your letter he knew the matter he said but you come to late I said no if provision were made for the future that you were a modest suitor, and desirous to quit a plurality, he was very complaisant so that another letter gratefull for the Reception of this delivered by a welcome hand, and that will Sollicit may perhaps . . . his to D My Nancy hath been very ill Since this day Sennight we are not yet free from fears of Smallpox her tongue and throat so sore she speaks not without pain so thinks to

¹ Dr. John Durell was Dean of Windsor.

much and I fear is melancholy methinks she hath a very mortall countenance. I doe that which is best for her and us. Pray for us all. To be Sure I would not have shewed your papers to a Whig he was an honest Tory and able Lawyer that . . . them they shall be Returned per Flavell. I designe Tunbridge this week necessity of health so Requiring designed my wife's and Girles Company but am disappointed. But letters will Reach me therefore write to Thy

Jos Lane

All dues from all us to all you.

63. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

Stavely the 23 of July 1681.

SIR

I received this day by the same Post which brought yours and D^r Greenville a letter from D^r Brevint heere enclosed which not onely gives a particular account how those preferments are stated at this present but his opinion and advice how to proceed in order to the obtaining that which we all desire. That judicious sincere good man thinkes that recommendations by letter will signifye little as the case stands, and I am fully of his opinion: nay I am sure one of those named would doe more hurt then good if he should write, but I dare say he is not to be persuaded to doe it. If it please God that I shall ever wait upon the Princesse again I will most humbly beseech her to move it or I will desire those who have most power with her to ingage her Highnesse to speake to the Bishopp: but a Letter from her Highnesse to the Bishopp I thinke would be of small effect. I reioice to heare that my dear Neece and her daughter are so well returned from a tedious inconvenient journeyes but a most obliginge kindnesse to

Sir your most faithfull freind
and humble servant
J Frescheville

I present my dear respecte
to my neece Cumber as I
doe to her Mother and sister.

64. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.¹

Durham July 29. 1681

REVEREND SIR

When I last saw you, I did acquaint you, of a great dispute I had with a turbulent parishioner of mine [one Midforth] which rose up in the congregation, and opposed mee, in an occasional addresse I made to the people in time of Divine Service, just after the Nicene Creed. The Issue whereof, I think myself obliged to communicate to soe good a friend it being indeed *Causa Ecclesiae*. The man stood indicted by the Statute of prim. Mar.² for disturbing the Priest in time of Divine Service and Sermon which statute the Judge had declared was in force. And the first point was, whether this Disturbance was in time of Divine Service or noe and tho' I proved it by my own Witnesses, and was confessed by theirs, that it was between the Nicene Creed, and the Sermon yet it was judged not in time of Divine Service tho it is plain that it was in the midst, not onely of Divine Service, but of our hghest Divine Service, namely the Second Service. The second point was whether the person might not have liberty to speake in the Church, since I did in the end of my discourse, mention the approaching Election (which is a Temporall affair) for Members of Parliament (which I confesse I did as the ground of a discourse concerning Loyalty and allegiance) and it was thought hee might, hee being a freeholder. A learned decision of two different points, that what was done in the midst of Divine Service, should not bee done in Divine Service. Secondly that my naming a temporall affair (such a temporall affair: as is the subject of our publick devotions) should not bee the subject of a

¹ Not in the *Granville Letters*. Surtees Soc.

² An Act for such as disturb divine service or preachers. 1 Mary 2, Cap. 3.

On a Sunday in February 1681 Granville conducted morning service at Easington, and after giving out the notices after the Nicene Creed he urged the congregation at the forthcoming election to Parliament to vote for Bowes and Featherstone because they were well-affected to the Church. Captain William Mitford, a Nonconformist, protested aloud and said they were not sufficiently hostile to the Church of Rome. He was prosecuted for brawling in divine service. The case was heard at the July assizes, when Baron Gregory decided that as Granville's remarks had been made *after* the Nicene Creed at the time appointed for notices, Mitford had not replied during divine service and was not guilty of brawling. Archdeacon Granville, much annoyed at this, proposed to present the man in the ecclesiastical court, but was told by Sir Leoline Jenkins that as he had chosen to prosecute him before a lay tribunal, he could not after that proceed against him in the ecclesiastical court.

publick discourse, but bee esteemed so prophane a thing, as to take away all the sacrednesse, which was due to Priest, Church, and Service : You have heard the case, I pray, let it bee the subject of your thoughts, and devotions. For I feare the falsenesse of the Jury, and want of zeale in some others, (who might have prevented this Errour both in Judge and Jury) will be of sad Consequence, at least in this Diocese : for if they will make bold in my own Parish, to brow beate an Archdeacon, some will not stick to pull a poor Country Parson out of the Pulpit. *Exurgat Deus, dissipentur inimici sui.* On Tuesday the nineteenth of this Moneth, Dr Bagshaw¹ came from London, and was installed on the 20th, being our Grand-chapter day, Since which time wee have had an account that D^r Durell² does decline very much, being almost opprest with an Astma (as hee does express it in his Letter) for which hee is advised to goe into France, and drink the waters of Bourbon. All conclude hee will not be a long lived man, soe that hee being very weake, and four other Prebends very old, and I myself in a probability of a remove, there is great likelyhood that there may be at least six vacancies in a few years, wherefore I pray, have your eye still towards Durham, and keepe up your friends in an active pitch of zeale for you, I shall not faile, I do assure you to fix mine. God prosper all our designs and undertakings. Good sir, consider well the Rubrick about weekly Communions in Cathedralls (it is a business of great Importance) and take the pains to peruse D^r Bury's book,³ and let mee

¹ Dr. Henry Bagshaw, Westminster and Christ Church, Oxf. D.D. 1671; Chaplain to Sir Richard Fanshawe in Spain and afterwards to Archbishop Sterne; Prebendary of Southwell and Rector of Castleton; in 1667 Prebendary of York; 1672 Chaplain to Danby and Rector of St. Botolphs, Bishopsgate, which he exchanged for Houghton-le-Spring; installed Prebendary of Durham 20th July 1680. Died at Houghton-le-Spring 30th December 1709 and was buried there.

² Dr. John Durell, Merton College, Oxford, and Sylvanian College, Caen. Minister of the Savoy 1660; Chaplain to Charles II 1662; Prebendary of Salisbury 1663 and Winchester 1664 and Durham 1668; Dean of Windsor and Wolverhampton 1667. Died 1683. He wrote *A View of the Government and Public Worship of God in the Reformed Churches beyond the Seas*, 1662, and *Sanctae Ecclesiae Anglicanae adversus iniquas et inverecundas Schismaticorum Criminationes Vindiciae*, 1669.

³ This seems to refer to *The Constant Communicant, a Diatribe proving that Constancy in Receiving the Lord's Supper is the indispensable Duty of every Christian* by Arthur Bury. S.T.B. Oxford 1681. Second edition 1683.

Arthur Bury or Berry was a Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, ejected in 1648. He was restored in 1662 and made Rector of the College in 1666. In 1690 he published *The Naked Gospel, Pt. I, Of Faith*. For this he was expelled in 1690 and his book was publicly burnt by decree of the Oxford Convocation, as full of Socinianism. He died at South Petherton, Somerset, in 1713.

understand your mind, as to that point when we meete here in September on which I doe still depend. Let me fresh your memory, that my Residence begins the 7th and ends the 28th, I would fain enjoy you for the whole three weeks; a fortnights stay I do hope for, but assure myself of a week's. My humble service to your Lady and worthy family, earnestly begging the continuance of your friendship, and good prayers, I rest

Reverend and deare Sir
your most faithfull friend, humble
Servant and affectionate brother

For
The Reverend and
worthy D^r Comber
Prebendary
of
York
post p^d 2^d.

65. T.C. TO DR BREVINT

Newton. Sept : 26. 1681.

REVEREND D^r

The great favours you were pleased to expresse to me at Durham command my gratitude, and the extraordinary esteem I have for your selfe and excellent Lady makes me desirous that that family which I am obliged to honour *above all others* may be blessed in the nearest Relation to you, and this hath made me revolve in my mind all expedients to bring this affair to a happy Conclusion : I found on your part a good Opinion of the family and the young Gentleman (whom the more you know the better you will love) and I perceived Sir Christopher extremely pleased with what he saw and heard of your selfe and your Lady, as also that M^r Wandesford had a great respect for your Daughter which if prudence and your desires had not restrained him he had further expressed : And I was convinced by the whole matter that by Gods Blessing, it might make both familys very happy, there was no difference but upon the account of present fortune which inclined me to visit and discover Sir Christopher in my return home, and truly his respect for you all is so great, perceiving his sons good Opinion of your Daughter, that

he professes to me he will do anything that is reasonable and in his power to perfect this businesse, and I have obtained leave from him to make some new Proposals which I hope will be to your full satisfaction: As for your apprehension of the estate being too great for you to match with since they are well pleased with what you can do (if you please to do that) and since they have an esteem for your Daughter, you need not doubt of her kind usage among them, and the greater the estate the better able it will be to satisfy all occasions, and leave as much to be cleerly settled on the young Couple at present as you do propose to get for your daughter in the whole, besides a very good reversion which will certainly come to them after Sir Christophers decease. So here is that competent estate you aym at for your daughter at present and a fair prospect of much more afterwards before their children come to be provided for: The great difference I perceive is about present mony, for they are content with £6000 (which you sayd you would secure first and last) and if God blesse you with life so as you can do more, that will be your free Act and still oblige them: Now your reason why you would not part with this mony at present is indeed unanswerable viz: your obligation to provide for your excellent wife, who hath been so kind and tender a Nurse to you: but for this, my Mother, M^{rs} Thornton (a great honourer of your selfe and family and a well-wisher to this Match) with my selfe have (we hope) found out a good expedient: for we consider that so long as God spares you, Madam Brevint will live happily and plentifully and it being very reasonable she should be well provided for (after your decease) we think it much better for him to have a good and certaine yearly income well secured from honest hands and a good estate then to have the trouble and hazard of letting out Mony to interest, and therefore we proposed to Sir Christopher the settling such an Annuity (as might compensate the Money payd down) for the use of your Lady after your decease. And truly we found him so well inclined to the match that he gives me leave to tell you, that whereas you promised £3000 down and £1000 at the birth of the first child, and to secure £2000 more after your own and wives decease, if you will pay the whole £6000 within any reasonable time after the marriage (as you can agree on Treaty) He will not only settle a very liberall present maintenance on his Son and make your Daughter a good joynture,

But likewise settle his whole estate on them (which will come much cleerer and sooner to them, by reason of the fortunes of younger children this way payd off) in reversion after his and my Lady's decease, and besides he will settle for Madam Brevints provision after your decease a good and cleer rent charge of £150 per Annum (or more if upon treaty it be thought just and reasonable) so that shee will be well provided for and your daughter also. For there is estate enough to answer all reasonable expectations: Sir I know you are a Person of great prudence and now I have prevailed thus far with Sir Christopher out of my respects to both familys, which I beleeve will both be happy in this match I hope you will seriously consider of all this, and give me a favorable answer and I think you can never in all points have a better prospect for your daughters comfort and your own; so that as they do (beyond my expectations) endeavour to comply with you, I hope you will continue to comply with them, and appoint some meeting for further treaty, which if you will fix and agree to as to time and place I am persuaded a small matter will not make you differ, and I dare say if your inclination to the businesse do encourage them you will find them very willing to do what in reason you can desire: I shall wait for a kind answer from you in the generall, and by that I shall judge if your opinion of these proposals¹ which are made with a sincere respect to you and all yours: by

Good Dr

your most obliged faithfull friend & Servant
Tho: Comber.

I hope I may give you joy of your Deanry of Lincoln since I hear D^r Honyword is dead,² and shall be glad to see you . . . [at Stonegrave?] which is your neerest way thither as M^r Basire³ can direct you.

¹ Sir Christopher Wandesford's only surviving son at this time was Christopher, who succeeded to the baronetcy. He did not marry Dr. Brevint's daughter. He married Elizabeth, daughter of George Montagu, Esq., of Horton, Northants.

² Dr. Michael Honeywood (1597-1681), Christ's College, Cambridge. M.A. 1618; D.D. 1661; Rector of Kegworth; during the Protectorate lived in Holland; Dean of Lincoln 1660-81, where he built the cathedral library.

³ There were two sons of Archdeacon Basire (d. 1676) of some prominence in the diocese of Durham. The elder, Isaac Basire, married Lady Elizabeth Burton, daughter of Bishop Cosin. He was a Barrister-at-law of Gray's Inn and was Official of the Archdeaconry of Northumberland. The younger son, Charles Basire, was Rector of Boldon from 1675-91. Probably the former is meant here.

66. T.C. TO ARCHDEACON GRANVILLE

Octob: 15th, 1681.

Dean Granville, Letters vol II (Surtees Soc.), p. 85.

67. SIR H. CHOLMELY TO T.C.

London the 28 Jan 1681.

SIR.

My acquaintance with my Lord of Durham is but small, having never visited him above three times, and once upon your accompt, I found him very civil, and ready to do what he knew would come to nothing, but a Prebend is such a thing that my interest will do you no good, nor perhaps that of any other, for I fear his Lordship is engaged for two or three removes. Nor know I well how to advise you, but think if my Lord Archbishop would presse it hard, it might go a great way, and that a recommendation from the Lady Anne would have its weight, but there is a Prince in Scotland,¹ to whom my Lord of Durham is so obliged, he can in gratitude deny nothing if it be pressed home, and me thinks your Neighbour who is lately made a Lord, and whos brother is a domestick servant,² might engage his Master to do you this kindnes. And since the Lady Anne is now going to attend the Duke her father, now he is to act as the King's Commissioner in Scotland, why might it not be worth your while to make a step thither on pretence to visit the Princesse, and then negotiat your own business with as much privacy and dexterity as you can, for you do well understand as times are, such an application as this is no ways popular, and will be best affected under a deep silence, the great fear is the Bishop may be so engaged nothing can do, for it is very late that you seek for this, but if my Lord Canterbury were are real as you think, he hath it in his hands in some little time to do you some such kindnes as you desire. Neither as yet hath M^r. . . . or any other bin with me about West

¹ James Duke of York.² Sir John Dawnay of Cowick, the third son of John Dawnay and Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Hutton of Goldsborough and Hooton Pagnell; baptized at Hooton Pagnell January 25th 1624/5; married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Melton. Dawnay was knighted in 1660; M.P. for Pontefract 1661-90; a member of the Court party till the final breach with James; created Viscount Downe in the Irish peerage in February 1680-81; died 1695. This must be the person referred to. If the story is true the brother had come down in the world.

Haslerton,¹ when it is void shal do your Curat all the service I can, but would neither be thought too officious, or incredulous in these matters since it serve only to expose my interest without doing my freind service. Thus with my humble service to all in your parts

I remain

Sir

Your servant

H. Cholmely

If the living you mean be that which Mr Dobson² had you come to late, I being engaged for another and have writ to my Lord of London in his visitation it is as I remember such a name, but said to be worth £140 the year so do suppose it cannot be that you mean which you say is but £80

For the Rcoverend D^r Comber Prebend of York.

68. LORD FRESCHVILLE TO T.C.

SIR

Feb 7th

If you intend to make a journey to London you will finde the Archbishop more your friend than any body else who is qualified to doe you good : for when I moved him on Friday last to remember you, his Grace replyed I thinke more of him than you are aware of. As for the Northern Bishop³ I thinke there are small hopes of what he will doe, and good D^r Brevint is not likely to keep his place at Durham, the Commissioners for Ecclesiasticall Matters are so zealous against pluralities⁴ It was kindly done to meett him and I am sure you would be wellcome to him. My Lord who is going into France can do you no good in England nor perhaps any considerable service in France. As for Lady Annes⁵ return into

¹ West Heslerton, as it is known to-day. It is in the north of the East Riding, not far from Malton. In 1711, according to Ecton, it was worth £21 6s. 8d.

² John Dobson was Rector of West Heslerton 1661-8 and Vicar of Yedingham 1662-8.

³ Crewe of Durham.

⁴ Brevint became Dean of Lincoln in 1682. He retained his Durham prebend and his Lincoln prebend and deanery until his death in 1695.

⁵ Lady Anne's return. Anne was out of England twice. (1) At the age of 15 years, she joined her father in Brussels in the autumn of 1679, and returned to England 12th October. (2) On July 17th 1681 she was allowed to go to Scotland to her father and mother. She arrived in Leith on July 17th. On 25th May 1682 James, his duchess and the princess Anne arrived in Whitehall. This dates this letter in February 1681-2.

England I heare nothing of it nor can I flatter you with much successe if her Highnesse was here. I am grieved to hear of my deare neece Thorntons indisposition but though I doubt not of her good recovery, yet my own weaknesse is to such a degree that I never expect to see any of my northern friends againe. I like very well the match you mention for my neece Katherine.¹ This is a free and I thinke a just account of what you may expect and so with my prayers and constant good wishes for you all at Newton

I am

Sir

Yours most faithfully

J. Fresheville

69. THE REV. THOMAS PURCHAS TO T.C.

March 6th, 1681.

Autobiography of Mrs. Thornton, pp. 301-2.

70. T.C. TO MRS. THORNTON

York. May: 2: 1682

DEAR MOTHER.

You will wonder to hear I who am thought to have so strong inclination, am come back to York, but the wonder will be lesse when I shall tell you my reasons, we got to Doncaster with great perill to our lives, and there the Coachman in a drunken rage left us all six next morning, and drove away empty, so that there was no way but to venture after him on ill post horses through desperate waters with the hazard of his being gon away too when we had ventured life and health to follow to him to Newark, yet 2 Gentlemen did run that hazard, but I was bent to come back from so unprosperous a beginning as soon as I could safely, knowing there could be no losse but of money or temporall advantages in that, and fearing my poor wives sad distraction at my going in such a season, so that on Saturday morning there being an empty place in a Coach to York I ventured back, but we were again stopt by waters at

¹ The "niece" was Catherine, daughter of William and Alice Thornton, who married 27th December 1682 the Rev. Thomas Purchas of Langton-on-Swale. See the letter dated March 6th 1681-2 from the Rev. T. Purchas to Dr. Comber. (*Life of Mrs. Thornton*, p. 301.)

Ferrybridge till Sunday morning and then we came by Gods mercy all safe to York, where I have writ to all my friends to my Lord of London,¹ to M^r Lane, to Sir Hugh, to M^r Clavell &c. I have begged of My Lord to allow me till after Whitsunday if he can before I come up; and have sent 50^l to London for M^r Johnson² desiring him to receive it there and to discharge Sir Charls³ and his own bills, and to get a legall discharge for my brother, begging withal of him to resist his journey up to London till I can meet him there: And now I am to tell you that Providence had a secret reason which I know not of to have me return, which was my poor child's illness, of whose life D^r Lister⁴ almost despaired on Sunday last, nor is she yet out of danger having a violent cough which sorely breaks her sleep, yet now the D^r gives us hopes shee is somewhat better, and this which I account far greater than the disappointment of my

¹ Henry Compton, Bishop of London, 1675-1713.

² James Johnson of Sidney Sussex College. D.D. 1689. From 1688-1704 he was Master of the College. He was "the intimate friend and indeed relative of Thomas Comber." (*Memoirs*, p. 272.) He was Vice-Chancellor 1689-90.

³ G. M. Edwards, *History of Sidney Sussex College* (p. 147), quotes the following account by Dr. Minshull (then Master): "When we were met I declar'd unto them [i.e. the Fellows] the cause of my calling them, which was this. A discovery was made to me of a robbery that was committed in S^r Charles Pym's chamber by Thornton and Huggins; Woodall also (as he confessed to his Tutor) knew of the same. Thornton also by the confession of Huggins told Berry that Thornton had been with him several times to attempt the like upon the M^r [Master]; but he would never consent to him nor for the world endeavour it. Likewise Berry and Taylor senior were told by Avis the Joyner last week that Thornton and Woodall had been with him now and then above a quarter of a yeare to assist them in the same, but he denied them: whereupon (as Woodall confest to his Tutor) Thornton and Woodall endeavoured the breaking open of my doore and cut the holes which were found there, and Woodall told them since that Thornton gave him money to buy the instrument with which they did it. Upon this information the Society proceeded to the Expulsion of Huggins, Thornton and Woodall, and expell'd they were the day above written by unanimous consent." [I owe this reference to the Rev. G. W. F. Coupe of Sidney Sussex College.] Charles Pym succeeded to a baronetcy in 1671. Venn says he was admitted a fellow commoner May 21st 1681, and took his M.A. in 1682. Probably there is some mistake here. We do not hear of any defence made by Thornton, but he was sent down, and Comber's words about discharging Sir Charles suggest that something serious had taken place.

⁴ Dr. Martin Lister settled down as a medical practitioner in York in 1670. At first he lived outside Micklegate Bar, but in 1672 he moved into St. Helen's parish. He was the first to draw attention to the archæological importance of the Roman multi-angular tower there. A great naturalist, his most important book was *Historia sive Synopsis Methodica Conchyliorum*, with copper-plate illustrations by his two daughters. He read more than forty papers before the Royal Society, of which he was made a Fellow. He removed to London in 1683. The epitaph to his daughter in York Minster, "Jane Lister, Dear Child, died October 7th 1688," is well known. His book, *A Journey to Paris in 1689*, had a wide sale. He became physician to Queen Anne and died in February 1712.

journey makes me glad I was here to bear a part with my poor wife in this grievous affliction, in which it seems she could not get one friend from Newton to visit her though she writ for it, but since I am here there is no need, we must be guided by the Docter, submit and pray for the succeſſe and leave the event to God, which I hope will be in Mercy: I purpoſe to come home the latter end of the week, and on Fryday morning pray ſend George¹ with my gray horſe and ſome other (I know not which) for my mare is lately horſed I ſuppoſe, and let my Uncle Denton ſend M^r Mann² word of my return and not to trouble himſelfe till I do really go up: I was ſure the enclosed was from M^r Purchas and ſo I ventured to open it that you might have my advice upon it, The old R: is poſitive even to inſolence³ but with regret I muſt counſell you to yield to him, the young man appears ſtill honeſt and ſincerely to deſire the buſineſſe be concluded, we muſt hope and pray he may make amends for the other's faults, if you can ſend answer by a Meſſenger you may, but if not an answer may be ſent by Poſt from hence next Thursday night, and if George came then to be here by 6 o'clock at night tis but my bearing my horſes charges 2 nights, if poor thing be no better: I have more to tell you at meeting, but whoever condemns me for comming back I know you will all comend me. My reſpects to every one as due from

Your moſt affectionate ſon to
ſerve you

Tho Comber

If you agree pray ſend to M^r Jackson the &c that I may inſtruct him about the time to write by Saturday's poſt

¹ George may have been George Lightfoot who married Daphne Carrell. They ſeem to have paſſed from Mrs. Thornton's ſervice to that of Comber.

² Comber's friend Charles Man, Rector of Gilling.

³ The reference ſeems to be to the negotiations about the marriage of the Rev. Thomas Purchas and Catherine Thornton. A letter from Purchas to Thornton dated March 6th 1681/2 (*Mrs. Thornton*, pp. 301-2) ſeems to ſhow that the would-be bridegroom's father was the ſtumbling-block. "Pray be pleaſed to keep this private from my father, for I am loth to offend him" refers to a ſuggestion that the ſon will pay £200 if Comber will releaſe the father from the payment of that ſum. The old R(?aſcal) was making matters difficult and Comber was a careful ſoul when it came to financial matters and ſeems to have been ſeriously annoyed.

⁴ In 1664 Mrs. Thornton told her huſband of an affidavit to be ſent to Mr. Jackson. The Stonegrave registers have reference to a private Communion Service held at the houſe of Mr. Jackson on February 8th 1702. This Thomas Jackson of Nunnington died on 7th July 1702 aged ſeventy-one years. There is a marble monument to

M^r John Denton was not come out London last Wednesday for I see a D^r of Physic who lost that coach at Doncaster and came a horseback to this town, and told me no such person was in that Coach and tis well he stays, for it will be better travelling now for that D^r says, he was thrice ready to leap out of the coach into the water to save his life by swimming all in one day: the waters now fall blessed be God and my Company are gon forward, but I do not repent at all.

71. DR. GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

July 15. 1682.

MY DEAR AND HONOURED FREIND

Yours of the 8th instant I received, with M^r Bridges enclosed papers, for which I intend to send him my thanks in a letter. G.B.'s¹ paper is not yet, as I can heare, in the presse, but lys at Chiswell's shop, but I suppose he will print it. It is a *most mulitious* reply. I had but time to read it cursorily over, and the greatest flaws in your paper, which I think he takes notice of, are what he replys to your observation, p. 127² and to the contradictions which you say are between the parts of his book, especially p. 117 and p. 126,³ and a chronologicall mistake of yours in your animadversions p. 59,⁴ and another wrong notice of yours of the Parllamēt of France, which when I first read, I thought you had ment the assembly of the 3 Estats. For there is no other parliament of France in our

him in Stonegrave Church. His wife died 12th February 1678. Of their eleven children a son and daughter survived her. The son Thomas became Town Clerk of London.

¹ Gilbert Burnet.

² This seems to relate to p. 127 of the *Regale*. In the printed reply Burnet refers to it on p. 10. Comber objected to Burnet's statement that before Carloman and Pepin there had been no synods in France for 80 years.

³ These pages seem to be wrongly given in the transcript. The pages in Burnet's book deal with entirely different matters, but probably pp. 126 and 131 are meant. In the former Burnet blamed the bishops for fighting as soldiers, and in the latter he related how they were forced to do so. Burnet's reply is: "He may as well call it a contradiction to blame men for apostatizing from the Faith, and yet shewing how they were forced to it by Persecution" (*Answer to Animadversions*, p. 12).

⁴ Comber had said that before the Fourth Council of Carthage, the African Churches had been lately oppressed by the Vandals, but Baronius and the Collectors of the Councils date that Council in 398 A.D., and the Vandals did not invade Africa till 427 A.D. (Burnet, *Answer*, p. 18, Labbe and Cossart, *Concilia*, Paris 1671.)

notion of parliament. But in every province the supream judicature is called the parliament and there lyes appeal from them all to the parliament at Paris, where the registering or verifying the King's edicts makes them lawes. If he prints his reply I hope you will take both it and his book more amply to task. I have not yet *resolved* on the answering of Julian,¹ but am layd at on all sides so that I think I might try. I should be glad to have your remarques compleat, and what you have observed out of Bracton² for the Kings being unaccountable to any but God, and the power of the sword being wholly invested in him. Your Brother³ hath not yet been with me I suppose you forgott to speak to him as I desired you, I will do him all the kindnesse I can. I pray present my hearty respects to M^r Denton, (I honor him very much for his *ingenuity* and *honesty*), and my humble service to your good lady, and your Mother Madam Thornton, I heartily wish you all good health. Here are *horrible pamphlets* come out every day, and the *monarchy* struggles with a *commonwealth*, especially in the election of the sherifs,⁴ which is so intricate, perplexed, and uncertain, that I cannot give you a relation of it. I wish I were any where but in this town, till the government gets more strength. We must do our duty stren-

¹ *Julian the Apostate*. Being a Short Account of his Life: the Sense of the Primitive Christians about his Succession and their Behaviour towards him. Together with a Comparison of Papery and Paganism. By Samuel Johnson, Rector of Corringham 1682. This work was an attack on James Duke of York.

² Henry de Bracton or Bratton, Chancellor of Exeter and an itinerant justice, died 1268. Author of *De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ* in five books, the first great exposition of medieval law and custom in England. Bracton's *Note Book*, probably his work, is an annotated collection of law cases of the reign of Henry III.

³ Robert Thornton.

⁴ There was a long-established custom in the City of London by which the Lord Mayor nominated one of the Sheriffs for the ensuing year by drinking his health at the Bridge House Feast which was held some time before Midsummer. Then on Midsummer Day the freemen met in Common Hall, confirmed the nomination and elected a second Sheriff for themselves. This method had, however, been in disuse for about forty years, but was now being revived. The Attorney-General in 1682 assured the Lord Mayor that his right to nominate still held, and accordingly on May 18th Sir John Moore, the Lord Mayor, drank the health of Dudley North. On Midsummer Day there were noisy proceedings in the Common Hall. The opposition, the Whig and Dissenting party, refused to recognize the nomination, declared against Box, the other candidate, and put up in opposition Papillon and Dubois, wealthy merchants in the City. The two outgoing sheriffs, Pilkington and Shute, conducted a poll. The Tories claimed it was only for the confirmation of North; the Whigs said it was for his election. There were shouts of "God bless the Protestant sheriffs," a good deal of crowding and altercation, and the Lord Mayor was knocked down in the tumult. The Government intervened and the Privy Council ordered Pilkington and Shute to be prosecuted for riot. The election was postponed until July 5th, and

with no little care, because I found it reflected severely on the persons and interests of the clergy. The bare marginal notes which I put down on this occasion I was persuaded to permit a friend to print, in some measure to stop the mischiefs which might arise from divers passages in that discourse. To this, before I was got home, the Dr puts out a lofty and scornfull reply, without owning his mistakes or excusing his reflexions, but undertaking to justify all he had said. I confesse I am not certainly known for the author, but I dare own it to your Grace: and though some have advised me to sit silent, and I myself do not incline to print anything against Dr B, yet least he and others, who will take such prejudices from his indecent, false and reflecting passages, should triumph over this poor church, I have drawn up my thoughts of his Answer, and humbly beg leave of your Grace to do me the favour at some leisure minute, to cast your eye over it, that if I cannot publicly vindicate myselfe, yet I may demonstrate to your Grace, the great encourager of my poor endeavours, there was great cause for these Animadversions: and that I had not only a good cause but an honest design therein, both to bring the Dr to make some satisfaction to the injured church, or if not, to keep the infection from spreading too far. And now I submit all to your Grace's censure and will rather commit the Manuscript to the flames, or keep it awhile beside me, to see if he will give any new provocation, for I have more agreeable studyes to my temper then this of controversy, and yet I neither fear the Drs Arguments nor his reproches in so good a cause, only I would not be the instument of drawing a man of great parts and fierce temper to seek to repaire his credit by justifying even his very errors and by renewed reflexions on the clergy,

I remain, my Lord

Your grace's most affectionate
and dutiful son and servant
T.C.

73. THE BISHOP OF ST. ASAPH TO T.C.

Aug^t 10th 82.

SIR

I write this in answer to a letter that I received from M^r Cl¹ by the last post. The Letter had no date nor name subscribed to it, but I have reason enough to assure me it came from yourself; and therefore I addresse my self to you, that I might not amuse M^r Cl. by putting him to^h write the superscription. I shall endeavour to answer everything in the letter as far as I conceive it was expected by him that writ it: tho I cannot do it so fully as I would if I had leisure, for I am here upon busines which will scarce aford me time to thinke what I write.

In the first place I cannot but lament the occasion of all this. There was *much offence given*, I doubt not, because *much is taken* by them that bear no *ill will* to the Author of the Regale. For my part I have read no more but the preface to it, but believing upon the judgment of others *that there were many things lyable to exception in the book*, I was nevertheless satisfied from what I knew of the person that he did not write them with any ill design. I know he is one of great parts and quick thoughts, and affections not easy to govern, but withall I believe he is one that fears God; And I know he is of sound Principles even in those things in which this book makes men apt to think otherwise. I have often heard him saye that for Popular Elections there is no proof nor scarce color from Scripture. And tho he holds that Tythes under the Gospel are not antecedently of Divine right yet being Appropriated to God by humane Laws he holds it Sacriledg to take them awaye or not to paye them. He is in my opinion *much too sharp in his censures of Church-men* and yet he is so far from making those to unchurch us that he does not alow them to be any excuse for Seperation.

To these Declarations his Practice has bin alwaies agreeable he conforms to everything that is requir'd and observ'd in the Church and justifieth it to a little in his history of the Reformation.² A book

¹ Clavell.² *The History of the Reformation of the Church of England*, by Gilbert Burnet. Part I 1679. Part II 1681. Part III 1714.

that by the way was written not only for the Papists, but against all the Adversaries of our Church; and is as likely to do good upon them, I believe as any book that has bin written. I *know not* whether his not being considered for it, but being still in so scanty a Condition,¹ may not have made some ill impressions on him. It is not easy to judge what ill effects it would have upon our selves if we were in his circumstances when he had writ this book in a heat, and published it as it is, (which you truly say I told you, upon the assurance I have of his friendship should never have passed so if I had bin in town) as soon as there were exceptions taken at it, he promised, not only what you observe, that if any of our Church should write against any thing in it he would be silent, but that if any Adversary made use of it against the Church he would answer him. I had rather he had taken upon himself to correct those things that were amis in his book, or to explain those things that had given offence in it. But next to that, which had been the best way to acquit himself, this were the greatest satisfaction that could be given : and all things considered I did not think fit to insist upon any other : for if none of our Church writ against him, as I hoped for some reasons that none would, I did not doubt that som or other of our Adversaries would soon be quoting him on their side; and that would not only have made him correct or explain himself, but it had engaged him to answer their books, and have made him very usefull to the Church in the Controversy.

I thinke it was very unhappy that this was either not known or not considered by the Animadverter. Pray give me leave to speak my thoughts freely in this matter. I grant the Animadversions might have bin more severe, and I believe there was occasion enough for it but yet I cannot but wish they had bin writ with more temper. I thinke it had been enough (if there was anything necessary) to have shewed what was amis in the book, without making reflections on the Author : or if he must be brought in, to have discover'd his mistakes, and not to have charged him, as is done more than once with dishonesty. That is an imputation which no honest man ought by his silence to seem to confesse : and therefore I thought he was obliged to cleer himself of that charge : and I did not thinke he

¹ At that time he was Chaplain of the Rolls Chapel and lecturer at St. Clement's. He had, however, been offered the bishopric of Chichester in 1678.

was bound by his promise not to do it. So far I was the adviser and encourager of the answer to the Animadversions. But I did never advise nor encourage him to that which you saye in writing, nor to this which is published since: To cleare myself of both these, I will give you a full account of the matter.

When I had told him my opinion that it was necessary for him to vindicate himself from that charge, he immediately drue up the first answer, of which I will saye no more since he has censured it himself. But as ill as I liked it, (and I am sure you did not like it worse), yet I was willing you and others should see it, for an end which I hope I have obtained. I deall plainly in telling you, it was, that the Animadverter and others of our Church might see what they were to expect if they should proceed further in this quarrell. I thinke no man would willingly have to do with such an Adversary, and sure it would be no service to the Church to provoke him to write against it, I hope he would not do that upon any provocation; but it appears he is one of quick resentment, and has wherewith to revenge himself.

You remember aright, that he writ to desire me to get leave for him to print an answer, which I thought (as I have said) he ought to do. But you say I told him I could wish he would not print any answer. To what end then did I speak to you concerning it. I very well remember the end that I drove at, and I thinke I could not speak so incongruously to it. My end was to get you first to read the answer in my hands and then to assure you I would not take out the sharpnes of it, and to let nothing passe but a fair vindication of himself, to which the Animadverter should not be obliged to reply, and so there would be a fair end of this unhappy controversy. If I said anything which will not stand with this scheme it was blundering, from which I cannot alwaies clear my selfe. I am sorry to say that this scheme was not follow'd as I design'd, and of that I ought to give you some account, which I shall do with all plainnes.

When you left me in town, you may remember I was engaged in the cause between Hide and Emmerton: ¹ which Cause being then

¹ *Hide v. Emerton*. John Emerton, a member of the Middle Temple, married on 1st October 1674 Bridget Hide, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Hide, Bart., and of Lady Viner, who was the sister of Emerton's mother. Bridget was at the time two or three months over twelve years old. It was claimed that the marriage took place in the house of a certain Joseph Foster, that it was performed by a clerk in

near a sentence, it took me all my time, so that I could thinke of little else. Dr B sent often to know whether my Lord of Canterbury or of London would give him leave to print an answer with those Restrictions. I could not go to either of them, but hoped to see the later in London, and there to have obtained leave of him. But while I waited for this D^r B sent me word on Tuesday, that he would have his Answer out in print before Saturday night or not at all; for the Munday following the Judges were to go to their Circuit, then I was upon my Argument in order to the sentence on fryday, and therefore having no time to thinke on anything else, I desired him to observe these restrictions in his Answer, and so to print it, as if he had leave, which I thought I might presume to say upon what my Lord of Canterbury had said to me when I spoke with him last upon this occasion. Thereupon he did qualify his Answer and publish it, as now it standeth. It is not as it should have bin if I had seen it before it had gon to the presse. I do not like severall things in it besides those you have mentioned, but yet it may in some measure answer the end which I designed. For tho he has some Reflections on the Animadverter, and particularly that of the Asse,¹ which if you were to answer I see you would return on him again: yet as far as I can judg he doth not insinuate that the Author is neither a Scholar nor a Divine: he allows both these to D^r. C, by

holy orders named Brandling, that several relatives of Emerton were present, though the servants of the household were absent. Sir Robert Viner was not present, but Bridget subsequently admitted the marriage to him and alleged she was forced into it by the domination of her aunt. In 1675 Brandling was intimidated into denying the marriage even in the presence of the King at Whitehall, though he subsequently retracted the denial in the presence of Sir Robert Viner. Bridget was parted from Emerton by her relatives, and the question of the validity of the marriage was raised in the Court of Arches, which declared Emerton excommunicate for being concerned in a clandestine marriage. He brought a suit in the King's Bench for recovery of the lady's lands, and that Court decided in his favour in Easter term 1675. On appeal from the Arches to the Court of Delegates, the latter Court on 19th October 1680 declared the marriage valid. Stillingfleet, who was one of the delegates, said the mother was privy to the whole design and the girl had consented. The King next granted a Commission of Review and Emerton petitioned Parliament and said he had already lost £6,000 in legal expenses. There was a further complication that the lady had now married Lord Dunblane, Danby's son, against Danby's express prohibition. In April 1683 the Court decided against Emerton. Luttrell says that the prosecution was brought by a cousin also called Emerton, and that the day before the Court gave the final verdict he was bought off with 20,000 guineas (North, *Lives of the Norths*, ed. Jessop 1890, I, 85; Luttrell, *Diary*, I, 52, 255, 505. Stillingfleet, *Discourses*, 1735, 79-131).

¹ I will not pretend with the Philosopher to say, "If an ass kick shall I kick again?" (Burnet, *Answer*, p. 4.)

name p. 21, but indeed he saith, from such a one better might have been expected, p. 5. In short here is no evident charge of want of integrity, or of evil and malicious designe, I am sorry there is anything that looks towards it, there is more than enough to show that the writers anger is not yet over, but not (in my opinion) to hurt your friends reputation, at least in that part which every good man is obliged to defend. Indeed if Reputation were only to be considered, and mine were in the place of the Animadverters, I should not thinke fit to go to hard edge with it on this occasion, but how much lesse when the Church is concerned in the quarrell and so concerned that it is sure to loose whosoever has the better.

I have a great deal more to say on this subject than I thinke fit to write; but I have said enough allready to deliver my Judgment and if the Animadverter hath any value for that, to put an end also to this controversie.

I have passed by one thing in the letter which seems to reflect upon myself, that I should make a discovery of that which was told me as a Secret, namely that the Author of the Animadversions did intend to have shewn them to D^r B before they were printed: but that he put them into the hands of another that published them without his knowledg. I confes I told him this, and that, as you say, to mitigate his heat; but I did not tell him this that he should print it: and yet I did not tell it him as a Secret, for as far as I remember it was not committed to me on those terms that I should conceale it. I took it for no other than a needful explication of those things that were published both at the beginning and at the end of the Animadversions. Nevertheless if I exceeded my bounds, as I know not but I might, I heartily ask your pardon for it, for it was you that told me what I write. But to own no more than my share, I neither represented you as the reall Author, nor said that I knew certainly who he was, nor that he was in town at such a time as he mentions. These things might have been spared: for the two first he doth not say; the last he saith, but I know not from whence. I take it to be his own Divination.

I am sorry I have this occasion to make this apology for myself, but thus it commonly happens to him that endeavours to make men friends: especially if the parties are hot, and he doth his Office unskilfully. The great danger is when he seems to be partiall that

he takes upon him to be a Moderator. I may seem so to you, because I am less known to you than to D^r B: but I assure you I would not lessen the Animadverters a hairs breadth to ad a Cubit to the others stature. If they had the same Ideas of one another, that I have of them both, they would be friends in no common degree. I am sure I say this without either Flattery or Partiality. Pray Sir, let this matter be laid aside for a while, that you may Judge of it at a distance, and then I doubt not you will be of my opinion. I wish well to you in all things as I do to my owne Soule, and desire to be rememberd in your prayers

Sir

your very affectionate
Friend and Brother
W. Asaph.

Oxford. Aug. 10. 82.

74. DR. GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

Aug. 17th 1682.

MY DEAR AND HONOURED FRIEND.

I thank you most heartily for your last letter in which there are many things fit to be said in your reply, and if I thought you had not a copy of it, I would have taken a copy of it, and have sent you back the originall. When it first came to me, Dr C¹ was at Epsham² and came back from thence last Saturday, the Bishop of L was at Windsor, and I spoke not with him till last Thursday, and all our other Divines of note were out of town (and still are) so that which I have done, I have done merely of my own head.

First I took a copy of the inclosed to the A, and delivered the originall to M^r Clavell who sent it to him at Oxon, and I suppose he has acquainted D.B.³ with it, as I was willing he should do, to take down his present tast.

Then I went to Lamb[eth], where the Archbishop after I had told him my buisnesse, expressed himself in as much love and respect for the supposed author of the animadversions, as man could do,

¹ Dr. Cave.

² Epsom.

³ Dr. Burnet.

and in a contrary manner for D.B. whome I perceive he perfectly understands. He told me many particulars which had past between him and the B of S^t A about him, which are here too long to relate, and told me that he knew how much D.B. *governed* him, although he thought he governed D.B. In short after he had well perused the letters, he told me he would have an answer written to his whole book, but with great care, and vigilance to put him out of all his shifts, and doubles, and promised me to look over it, provided D^r C and D^r H¹ would first examin it deliberately, which I promised him should be done.

The Bishop of London is also for answer to the whole book but obliged me to tell you, that it must be done with all manner of care and caution, and that you must not write in such a *heat*, as you wrote my letter in, nor reflect upon the Scottish nation, which he supposes you would not have done, but in a privat letter, and when your answer is finished he saith he will read it as your *enemy*, because he is your true *friend*.

D^r C likes your letter to me most abundantly, and saith by all meanes you must write an answer to the whole book, and I question not but as many of my Brethren, as I shall communicat your letter to, will be glad of it, for D Bs reply hath not in the least altered their judgment of him.

As for the B of S^t A you must expect no *equall dealing* from him, I know he will discourage you all he can, and he will never be brought to think ill of D^r B and will maintain him to his utmost power. If you, and any 20 men more should write against him, he would set no value upon your reputations, in comparison of his, and I wonder you would go to him; you might see by his zeal for DB that he would betray you. My advice to you is to keep no correspondence with him, nor ever to write to him more. I would advise you to get D. B's Life of Sir Math. Hale,² and to read what he writes of the Scotch Bishops in his Memoirs of the Duke of Hamilton,³

¹ Drs. Cave and Hickes.

² *The Life and Death of Sir Matthew Hale, Kt.*, sometime Lord Chief Justice of His Majesties King's Bench. By Gilbert Burnet, 1682.

³ *The Memoires of the Lives and Actions of James and William, Dukes of Hamilton*: In which an account is given of the rise and progress of the Civil Wars of Scotland and other great Transactions . . . together with letters . . . written by King Charles I never before published. All drawn out or copied from the originals. By Gilbert Burnet. In seven books. London 1677.

and his preface to the 2^d part of the History of the Reformation, they may be of use to you.

You will have no letter from D^r C till you write to him. He saith *he will see you hanged first*.

I am going on with an answer to Julian. But D^r Long of Exeter¹ hath already finished one, which I have desired may be printed first.

My dear friend, I am glad you have such a generous courage, God give you health answerable, and enable you to go on with your new work: I believe God designed it for you. I pray present my service to M^r Bridges, I will er long write to him. I can tell you no good news, and will not trouble you with bad, nor say a word more than that I am in English sincerity

Your most affectionate and
faithfull servant

Geo: Hickes.

My humble service to your

Uncle Denton, and your

good Lady.

for the Reverend and honoured D^r Thom

Cumber at

York.

75. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY²

MY LORD

Before I had received your Graces Opinion by Dr H: concerning my answering the whole Book of the Regale, I had drawn

¹ Thomas Long (1621-1701), Vicar of St. Laurence, Exeter. Exeter College, Oxford, B.A. 1642, B.D. 1660. Prebendary of Exeter 1661-1701. A militant churchman and author of many polemical tracts. In 1683 he published *A Vindication of the Primitive Christians against the calumnies of a book entitled The Life of Julian*. Among other books published in this controversy were *Constantius the Apostate*, published anonymously, but by John Bennet. *The Life of Boethius recommended to the author of the Life of Julian* (anonymous). *The Triumph of Christianity or the Life of Cl. Fl. Julian the Apostate*, by John Dowell, M.A., of Christ's College, Cambridge. Anthony à Wood says there was an answer to *Julian* in a thin folio supposed to be written by one Meredith of Christ Church, Oxford. Dr. Henry Aldrich, Dr. John Mill, and George Royse, Fellow of Oriel, all preached against the book.

² Tanner MSS., xxxii, 49.

This letter is undated, but it must be after 17th August 1682, the date of Dr. Hickes' letter. The reference to the *Answer to the Animadversions* would suggest a date as late as November. But Comber and Hickes seem to have had access to a

up a Reply to Dr B's late Answer of the Animadversions & I hope have made it appear that his Defence as well as his book deserves to be censured, yet I have don it with all possible temper because I would not provoke the Author (whose parts and popularity enable him to do great mischief) to turn open Enemy to this Church, to which as yet he would be thought a friend. The whole book indeed is stuffed with mistakes & evidences of his partiality with invidious Characters of the Manners & conduct of the Clergy & odious as well as false representations of the Originall of their Rights and Maintenance (beyond what M^r Selden himselfe ever thought of) so that it were easy enough to write a just answer to the greatest part of his book, and though he deserves to be exposed (especially since he attempts to justify all these) and some tell me my own reputation expects it of me: yet I would only consider the public good, and we live in such an Age wherein it is likely enough some ill effects might follow upon such a discourse and whether it may do any good on those who have most need of it is hard to determine, so that unlesse my Superiors Commands prevail over my own inclination, I would not so much as print this Reply, since I am engaged in more profitable Studyes and I love not controversy especially with a Man whose esteem of himselfe and whose interest in a Party will not permit him to own the most evident mistakes nor so much as to excuse the most unhandsome reflexions: And since there is so little hope of the Author or his friends, it may perhaps suffice to let this Manuscript be showed to some that are unbiassed and most judicious, and if the Case be rightly stated to them, their censure of what is blameworthy in this book may go far in preventing the mischiefs thereof: I confesse when I hear Dr B's arguments are already made use of by such as are none of our friends, with a kind of triumph over those few Rights and that little support which is left to this poor Church, it doth excite me to overlook all Difficultys and dangers and make me resolve not to Quit so just a cause which may so fairly be maintained: And I hope I have found out a better expedient to attain this end then the writing an Answer

manuscript copy before the pamphlet was published. There seems some ground for assigning it to August, since on the 28th of that month Comber wrote to the Bishop of London on the same subject.

There are two versions of this letter extant. This, from the Tanner MSS., appears to be the final form as sent to the Archbishop.

directly against the Regale : For the two grand errors of the book are in the Matters of popular elections and Tythes, and I hear your Graces learned Chaplain my worthy friend hath undertaken to get the former of these right : And I shall have occasion very shortly to rectify what concerns the other, for my Historicall Vindication of Tythes already needs a Second Impression, wherein without any mention of Dr B's name, I shall bring in all his evill suggestions about Tythes, and I hope confute them to the satisfaction of impartial Men : In the mean time your Grace's zeal for the Churches right and most obliging kindnesse to me, embolden me to beg of y^r Grace to bestow some few spare minutes on this short Answer : And by the hands of my true friend Dr. H : let me then receive Your Grace's Commands, for though my inclinations lead me to peace & silence, yet I am resolved not to do anything which shall look like deserting an honest cause, & therefore will readily comply with that method which your Grace judges may be most expedient & most serviceable to the Church. For the safety & prosperity whereof my most hearty Prayers and endeavours shall never be wanting. I wish the Bish of St A would use his interest in Dr B to bring him to make some satisfaction to the Church, which in conscience the Dr ought to do, and this would supersede the trouble of his Monitors & gain to himselfe the truest repute and the most lasting peace. An apology for the length of these, would increase my fault and adde to y^r Graces trouble, so with my humble request for your Grace's blessing, and that I may sometimes be remembered in your Prayers I hasten to subscribe my selfe

My Lord

Your Graces most dutifull & affectionate
son & servant

Tho : Comber.

76. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MY LORD.

Before I had received your Graces Opinion concerning my replying to Dr B's whole Book I had drawn up an Answer to his late justification of what he was justly charged with in the Animad-

¹ This, from the Durham transcript and from the *Memoirs*, pp. 169-72, is the other version, probably a preliminary draft, of the previous letter.

versions and I hope made it appear that his Defence as well as his book deserves to be censured: yet I have don it with as much calmnesse as was possible, because I would not provoke a Man (whose parts and popularity enable him to do great mischief) to turn open enemy to that Church to which he yet would be thought a friend: And therefore unlesse my Superiors commands prevail over my own inclination I will not print these Papers because I love not to contend with a man whose pride makes him resolve not to own the most evident mistakes, nor so much as excuse the most notorious reflexions: This Manuscript may be seen by some of the most judicious, and represent the Case rightly to them, and tis their sense only that deserves to be valued: Tis true the whole book is stuffed with mistakes, partiality and invidious characters of the clergy, their Rights and maintenance, their manners and conduct: and I could easily write a volume as big as his in the discovery of these matters: and though he deserve to be so exposed especially since he justifies all these and some tell me my own vindication exacts it of me, yet we live in such an Age wherein it is likely enough some ill effects might follow upon such a discourse, and whether it may have any good effect upon those who need it most is hard to determine: I confesse when I hear Dr B's Arguments already made use of by the Churches Ennemys with a kind of triumph over the poor Church and those few rights and that little support which is left to her, it doth excite me to overlook all difficultys and dangers and hath made me resolve not to quit so just a cause which may so easily be maintained. But I hope I have at last thought of a better way then to do it in a single Book writ on purpose, for since his two Main Errors are in the matter of Popular Elections and Tithes and your Graces learned Chaplain¹ and my worthy friend hath undertaken the one, and will set that matter right, I shall have opportunity very shortly to call all his errors in the other point to an Account in my next edition of the History of Tythes (now almost out of print) wherein without any personall reflexions on Dr B: I am resolved to mention all his false representations of the matter of Tythes, (as they fall in my way) and more fully confute them: which designes if your Grace do approve off, I hope I may be excused from writing against his whole book of the Regale, and perhaps from Printing this

¹ Henry Morice.

Short Reply on which I hope your Grace will bestow some few spare minutes, and by the good D^r let me receive your Gr commands which I will study to observe for I am so assured of the goodnesse of my cause and the honesty of my design, that as far as my poor ability goes I will readily do whatever your Grace thinks most expedient in this case and may be most servicable to the Church. For the prosperity of which my prayers and utmost endeavours shall never be wanting: I wish the Bishop of S^t Asaph would improve his interest in D^r B: to bring him to make some acknowledgments and give some satisfaction to the Church which in confidence he ought to do: and that would supersede all further trouble and gain him the truest reputation & the most lasting peace, with my humble requeste for your Graces benediction and a room in your prayers: I remain

My Lord
Your Graces most affectionate
and dutiful son and servant
T.C.

77. T.C. TO THE BISHOP OF LONDON¹

28th Aug. 1682.

MY LORD.

The signall favours and respects received from your lordship at London, obliged me to have made my acknowledgements, before this time, but my apology must be these papers which were finished by me before I knew my best friends advised me to answer the *whole book* of Dr. B. and since they are done, it will be both a great honour and vast satisfaction to me, if your lordship can find a spare hour to peruse them, and my hopes to obtain that favour make it needlesse for me to anticipate your lordship's judgement by giving any account of the manner of doing them: only, I hope, it will appear they are done *without passion*, and designed rather to *convince* the doctor of his *mistakes* and the *ill-consequence of them* than to *provoke him*. I have passed by innumerable obnoxious places, and studiously avoided all aggravations, but where the matter required some brief

¹ *Memoirs*, 173-5.

application. If the doctor's bare reading of this in manuscript would win him to find out some expedient to do the *church right*, I could be well pleased, these papers should *go no further*: if not, I shall be entirely directed by my lord of Canterbury and your lordship, as to the publishing these as they are, or enlarging them into a just account of the persons and things he hath misrepresented. I have written so fully to his grace about this matter, (which letter I know your lordship will see,) that I make bold to refer you thither, and desire to receive your farther orders by Dr. H. I suppose the doctor will tell your lordship how odd a letter I have received from the Bishop of St Asaph, and what reply I have made to it, I reverence his sacred order, and believe him to be a very good man, and upon both accounts am troubled he should be concerned for one who furnishes the *Atheists*, and *Dissenters* with stones to throw at the clergy, and religion itself; and if my papers could bring his lordship to take true measures of this book of the *Regale*, he would rather advise him to recant, than justify himself. I shall give your lordship no further trouble as yet,¹ for I am scarce settled here so fully as to know in what posture my affairs will stand: your lordship's goodnesse to me strongly incline me to wish myselfe near you, but I fear my circumstances will scarce allow me to be ready to accept that kind offer you made me within the time prescribed. But wherever I am, I can sincerely say, you have one of the Chief places in my affections, who am,

Your lordship's
ever obliged, and dutifull servant,
Tho: Comber.

78. DR. GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

MY DEAR FREIND.

September 8th 1682.

On friday last I received the 3rd part of your fair copy, and Saturday morning went to D^r C. We read it over together, and we are very well satisfied with it, saveing some few passages, which I shall now tell you of.

The first is, that we cannot find in pag 20 of D^r B's Answer

¹ From subsequent letters received from Hickes, the plan of answering the *Regale* indirectly met with Bishop Compton's approval.

these words to which you refer in saying *nor to say how peculiar a talent he had in representing things favourably on the Churches side*.¹

The second is, that we cannot find in Origen's homily, that both tythes and first fruites were given to the Jewish priesthood; nor that passage wherein (you say) he planely blames those Christians who doing *neither of these* do so abuse the fruites of the earth, as not to let the priest, the Levite, and the Altar, have part of them—It will be necessary to put the words of the Author in the Margent and therefore send them up.

3. We cannot perceive in p 20 of Seldens history of tithes, quoted in your Margent, that which you cite out of him.

4. We think that those instances about the number of exorcists and readers, wherein D^r B is mistaken, are too frivolous to be noted, and ought not to be called falsities because they are not morall falsities, or things wherein he had any designe, and we advise you, if you have any more materiall, to send them to be put in the place of these.

Lastly we are of opinion, that that little contradiction of the Dr.'s which you observe in that saying of his, *Discovery of those cheates and late inventions by which in former ages the world hath been imposed on* is too trifling to be observed, and will incline the reader to believe, that the Animadvertor came with an ill mind to D^r B's book.

These are all the passages that we have excepted at and we know that you can easily mend them, only we wonder that you took no notice of his rendring *παροίχια* by parish (Diocesse) as if he would tempt his reader to think, that the primitive was nothing but a parochiall Bishop, or minister in favour of Blond² and M^r B.³

¹ The words are not in the printed *Answer*, which goes to show, as has already been said, that they were dealing with a manuscript of Burnet's *Answer* and not with the final printed version. In his next letter Comber explains that he only meant an allusion to a phrase Burnet uses to asperse the Animadvertor for his "peculiar talent in Chronology." . . . "I use that liberty . . . of following what I think best grounded, notwithstanding the learned performances of worthy and great men". (Burnet, *Answer*, p. 20).

² Blond means David Blondel, a learned Protestant. Born at Châlons-sur-Marne 1591. Minister at Houdan near Paris. Professor of History at Amsterdam till his death in 1655. An ecclesiastical historian. He wrote marginal notes on *Baronius Annales*. After his death this volume was given to the Library of Amsterdam.

³ Mr. Richard Baxter, the Nonconformist divine.

On Tuesday last I carried it with your letter to his Grace, who was well pleased with your letter, but being out of humor at that time, he desired me to carry the reply first to my Lord of London, and then bring it to him and He would peruse it. Accordingly yesterday I carried it with your letter to Fulham, my Lord gladly received it, I am to wait upon him next Tuesday, and then I shall have his opinion.

I am of opinion it ought to be printed because it will do no good by lying in shops, tho' I question whether my Lord of Canterbury, tho' he like it never so well, and wish it never so much printed, will not authorise the printing of it any further then by hinting his pleasure and opinion.

The foul copy which I have by me, I received last Monday. I pray God keep you in perfect health, and vigor, and reward you for your zeal, and paines in defending the Church.

This day I sent away the Bishop of S^t Asaphs' letter having copied it before I sent it. I am

Your most affectionate and humble servant

Geo : Hicks

for the reverend Doct^r Cumber in
York

79. T.C. TO DR HICKES

Septemb : 12th 1682

SIR.

Yours of the 8th I received just now, and am so unfortunate as not to have by me any foul copy of the Answer, But I hope I partly remember the particulars and return this reply.

The first particular you censure is not a quotation out of D^r B^r : Answer in termini but only an allusion to a phrase D^r B : uses to asperse the Animadverter for his peculiar talent in chronology, which you may find pag : 20 and the Animadverter only returns his own phrase upon him, and cites the page of his Answer where he first used it.

2^{ly} I have not that Homily of Origen but as I found it cited at

large in D^r Tildesly.¹ And the passage is too long to transcribe yet is cited in my History of Tithes pag: 64: 65: and besides that Origen there brings a Text out of the Gospel mentioning Tithes, to prove that Christ would have First-fruits paid to the Gospel Priests, and further shows that even in Tithing Christ would have our righteousness exceed that of the Scribes and Pharisees. Mark: 5: and then adds “quod vult ergo fieri a Pharisais multo magis et majori cum abundantia vult a discipulis impleri. Quod ante fieri a discipulis non vult, nec Pharisais imperat faciendum. Quomodo ergo abundat justitia nostra plus quam Scribarum et Pharisaeorum, SI ILLI DE FRUCTIBUS TERRAE SUAE GUSTARE NON AUDENT PRIUSQUAM PRIMITIAS SACERDOTIBUS OFFERANT ET LEVITIS DECIMAE SEPARANTUR. ET EGO NIHIL HORUM FACIENS, FRUCTIBUS TERRAE ITA ABUTAR UT SACERDOS NESCIAT, LEVITA IGNORAT, DIVINUM ALTARE NON SENTIAT. Hom: xi: in Libr. Numb. V. I think these words cited in larger letters do declare both Tythes and first fruits given to the Jewish Priesthood, and *Nihil horum*, coming after *primitias* and *decimae*, is a blaming those Christians who doing neither of these do so abuse the fruits of the earth etc so that you may put all or part of these words in the margin if you please, for I doubt not the quotation is very full, since Selden cited it in those very words in his History of Tithes pag: 41.

3^{ly} In the 50th page of Seldens History of Tithes you may find him confessing that Marculphus² hath no Formulary or precedents containing the form of granting Tithes, which is the thing referred to by that Quotation. And you will apprehend the sense more cleerly by reading what is said in my history of Tithes pag 87:

4^{ly} Instead of this slighter mistake, you may if you please put in that reflecting version “That the Clergy might not go out of their Parish i:e: Diocesse pag: 14 Whence some of his readers may fancy a Diocesse then was but as a modern Parish,³ as Mr. Bax⁴

¹ Richard Tillesley 1582-1621; M.A. 1601; D.D. 1617; St. John's College, Oxford; Archdeacon of Rochester 1614-21: published in 1619, *Animadversions on Mr. Selden's History of Tithes*. The Homily was Origen's Eleventh Homily on the Book of Numbers.

² Marculphus, Marculf, in the latter part of the seventh century, was the author of a Frankish Formulary. It is possible that Burnet used the second volume of Stephen Baluze: *Capitula Regum Francorum*. See Burnet's *Rights of Princes*, p. 123.

³ *Ibid*, pp. 41-2.

⁴ The Durham copyist wrote Mr. Bux, but Richard Baxter is meant. He was very busy in the controversies about episcopacy at this time. In *Church History; or*,

endeavours to proove it : and pag : 30 His citing Eusebius : de vita [Constantini] lib : 3 cap 58 to show “ that Constantine did not interpose in Elections, yet the place cited doth manifest that Constantine rejected the person first chosen, and nominated two others to them :

And observe (if you please) how point blank he contradicts D^r Stillingfleet of seperation¹ pag : 323 who brings proof that Constantine did meddle in elections : Again D^r Burnet pag : 125 cites a story as he calls it told of Charles Martel An 858 and in the next page 126 : he comes to shew “ that this had mighty effects, and some such odde storys of Martel wrought much on his children Carloman and Pepin An 742 : Now how storys invented in 858 could have effected An : 742 : ie. 116 years before they were told is not very probable. And if they were told An 742 (the year after Martel’s death) and had mighty effects then, it is very probable they were true : Some of these if you will may be put in instead of the former slighter examples.

^{5^{ly}} that Bull of late invention by which the world was imposed on in former Ages² is a very grosse solecism, and happens to be when he was saying a malicious thing, and it is only touched gently, yet if you will may leave out the inference drawn from it.

Finally I give you both my hearty thanks for your freedom, and do give you full power to correct adde or blot out, as you see fit, only I am loath to print it till the Bishop of S^t Asaph (at least) have seen it—Since I sent those Papers away I have been reviewing the whole book and I find it no very hard matter to answer the whole, if no softer method will win this good Man to own any of his errors. But if I be excused from that task as I hope I shall, I will only send you one sheet as a specimen how I think his first period till the Nicene Council may be answered as to popular elections which point I am now strictly considering and when my notions are put together

The Government of Bishops and their Councils Abbreviated, 1680, he set forth in his last chapter the view mentioned here. He also wrote: *A Treatise of Episcopacy*, confuting by Scripture, Reason and the Churches Testimony that sort of Diocesan Churches, Prelacy and Government, which casteth out the Primitive Church Species, Episcopacy, Ministry and Discipline, 1680, and *An Answer to Mr. Dodwell and Dr. Sherlock* confuting an universal Human Church-Supremacy Aristocraticall and Monarchical, as Church-Tyranny and Popery, 1682. For his views on this question see also *Reliquiae Baxterianae*, 1696, Appendix, pp. 71, 113.

¹ *The Mischief of Separation*. A Sermon preached at Guildhall Chapel May 2nd 1680 before the Lord Mayor. By Edward Stillingfleet, Dean of St. Paul’s, 1680.

² There is no such passage in Burnet’s *Rights of Princes* or in Burnet’s *Answer to the Animadversions*. It may have been given in Burnet’s manuscript draft of the *Answer*.

if they may be serviceable to M^r Maurice or any that are write[ing]
that Argument I will freely communicate

. . . of Tithes I shall deal with
. . . I write this in great hast
. . . these notes and remarks sooner
. . . opportunity to send: I am

Your friends Friend

T:C:

I am sorry D^r C keeps so stiffe to his resolution of seeing me H
[hanged ere] he write to me first, pray tell him I wish him better
eyes and better employment for [them than] to see his friends h:
And I will write

. . . and to prevent him from such kind
of . . .

80. DR GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

December 9. 82.

MY DEAR AND HONOURED FRIEND

I received your last letter, and though I have been more busy
than ever I thought I could have been, or endured to be, by
Answering of Julian, and prosecuting my rascally clerk, yet I would
have written sooner to you, if I could have given you a better account
of your papers: since I delivered them the last time into the Bishop
of London's hands he was so buisy that he could not review them
of a long time. I went thrice to Fulham on purpose to speak with
him about them, but still found he had not reviewed them, and a
fortnight ago I went to him again at his house in Aldersgate-street,
when he told me he had sent them to my Lord of Canterbury, which
made me go last Monday to Lambeth to speak with his Grace about
them, but I came after the gate was shut, but after dinner I went to
M^r Morrice to ask him, if he had heard my Lord speak of them, he
told me no, but upon my desire he told me he would discourse him
about them, and I promised to go again as next Tuesday, to hear
his Grace's opinion, but you must not expect, let him like them never
so well, that he will allow you to say you printed them by his
approbation: because I know his temper too well to think he will
visibly side with you, having refused with indignation to look upon
Burnets Answer, when the Bishop of St Asaph carried them to him.

When I have been at Lambeth, you shall hear from me again, and since the delay hath been greater than was expected, I highly approve (and so doth D^r Cave) of your writing to D^r B. to ask him what he can say for himself, and then, upon his refusall to reform his book himself, to have your answer printed, with an account in a preface of the methods you took to convince him, between him and you, and how long on purpose you delay'd the printing of your reply to his answer.

I do not wonder that you have heard nothing from the Bishop of S^t Asaph since you sent him the foul copy. Could he have told what to reply, you had heard of him by this time, at both eares I am very confident that D^r B also hath them now in possession.

As for your paper of popular Elections, I first put it in the hands of the Dean of Pauls, who said they were a full answer to D^r B, and wished they might be printed, which I think may be done when your reply is printed, which certainly must and ought to be, for it is an excellent reply. You suffer nothing here in your reputation for its not being published, for all the Clergy here knowes that there is such a reply by D^r C and me. Mr Morrice now hath your paper of popular Election's, when he hath done with it, I will put it in other hands, with the reply. But in the meantime do you write to D. B. to the same purpose that you designed. As for Cos Hen: Hicks. if you can tell how I may repay you here, I desire you to let him have 40^s, which I shall repay as you direct.

When my Answer to Julian¹ is don I will send you two Copies, Whereof you must give one to M^r Bridges. For the meantime I rest

Your most faithful and
humble servant

This for the Reverend D^r
Thomas Cumber at
York

G. Hickes.

81. T.C. TO DR. GILBERT BURNET

December the 20th 1682.²

S^r

The Silence of the Animadvertor after so obnoxious and sharpe

¹ It was published in the following year under the title *Jovian, or an Answer to Julian the Apostate.*

² MS. Bodl. Add D. 23f., 14.

an Answer proceeded from his resolution to try all amicable methods for truth and Peace before he would engage further in a Publick controversy wth one of his Brethren: his reply was finished three Moneths ago yet still it remains private and may do so for ever if you please to do your self so much right as to correct Some very exceptionable passages in your book of the Regale to w^{ch} end he writt to a worthy Prelate¹ your friend and sent him a foul Copy of the Reply which he supposes that good Bishop did communicate to you (because it is not come back to his hands) but not finding any account w^t effect the application had the Animadvertor now Addresses himself directly to your self, assuring you he neither is nor ever was your enemy But retains a great esteem for your learning and Industry. Nor did he design to expose your reputation in his first Paper but only by a few short Notes (not written in the stile of an enemy) to put you upon a review of y^r Booke w^{ch} your best friends censured and w^{ch} had so many things blameworthy in itt that he feared if you were not induced to make some Amendm^{ts} of them and Apology for them the faults of this might take off from y^e credit of yo^{ur} other more elaborate and useful Volumes: and (though it will be an ungrateful truth to tell you so) he hath reason to believe your high vindication of this booke hath in too great a measure contributed to that unhappy effect: You will ask the Animadvertor if he had any kindness for you why he did not make private application to you before he published those firste notes? He replies that although he might plead you had (in his opinion) first publicly injured the truth and therefore it was as lawful for him publicly to vindicate it as also yo^u severely reflected upon many late Authors wthout any precedent Application to them. Yet he really designed those papers should be first showed you and was dissuaded by some that were not (as he is) unknown to you: Nor had he then observed your ingenuous correcting the mistakes of yo^r History of y^e reformation upon y^e admonition of D^r F² But since he hath considered your

¹ Lloyd of St. Asaph.

² William Fulman (1632-88) is the divine referred to. While Burnet was preparing his second volume, Fulman sent him corrections to his first. He published these at the end of the second volume, "being neither ashamed to confess my faults nor unwilling to acknowledge from what hand I received information." Fulman assisted him in the second volume. The correspondence between them is given in N. Pocock's edition of Burnet's *History of the Reformation*. Oxford 1875, Vol VII, pp. 24-57. They quarrelled after a time and Burnet described Fulman as having

candid dealing in that point he resolves to give yoⁿ no occasion for a second complaint of that kind but wil try w^t this private, plain and modest account of y^r mistakes in the book of the Regale wil do before he publish anything: He remembers indeed in your warm answer you will scarce owne any faults therein but since yo^r most Judicious friends thought otherwise He hopes in your cooler temper (wth the help of the remarks now sent) you May be convinced there are more errors and of worse consequence in this then now suggested to you by Doctor F: And it is your own words y^e give him this persuasion for you say in y^r Preface to y^e 2^d part of y^r History of y^e Reformation that you are neither ashamed to Confess your faults, nor unwilling to acknowledge from w^t hand you receive better information yo^{ur} designe in writeing being to deliver truth down to y^e next age, you think it is a mean and criminal piece of vanity to suggest y^e discovery of your Errors and had y^e number and consequence of them been greater then it is you would have submitted to a much severer penance rather then to have left y^e world in Mistakes you had led them into. Adding if need were you would make a fyrther retraction being above y^e vanity of seeking your own reputation by sacrificing truth to it which worthy speech if yoⁿ will now make good the Animadvertor and you can have no further controversy for he wil never wyllingly undertake y^e office of a private Monitor to intimate to you all y^e mistakes he hath observed and your own hand may correct them to your lasting Honour then sustain the (to him) ungratefull talk of being your Opponent and setting these things right in that way which wil be as litle to his satisfaction as it may be to your credit for which he hath more tenderness then you seem willing to believe. Perhaps you may think this discourse proceeds from his fear of not being able to make good the charges but he assures you he is not courting you to confess anything which you are not convinced to have been amiss: He

an odd strain of sourness in his character." Fulman was an Oxford Scholar and a Fellow of Corpus. He collaborated with others, and they sometimes got the credit of his work. He produced with Gale three volumes of chronicles, *Rerum Anglicarum Scriptorum Veterum*, of which the first volume was his. His collection of the writings of Charles I gave material to Perrinchief. Amongst his works was *Academiae Oxoniensis Notitia* 1665 and second edition 1675. His friend Anthony à Wood profited much by his knowledge. He left behind him twenty-two volumes of historical collections. (See D. C. Douglas, *English Scholars*, 1939, pp. 213-19.) During his lifetime his work and learning never received adequate recognition.

thinks he hath remarked nothing in his reply nor 'in these Papers which doth not deserve and need your second thoughts and after his examining your book as impartially as he can wish you should do these remarks, and as carefully as his skill and circumstances would permit he is abundantly Convinced these things ought to be corrected and if you think otherwise at first view you may remember we are not usually y^e best judges of our own performances 'Αὐτὸς αὐτοῦ κόλαξ ἕκαστος πρῶτος καὶ μέγιστος. Plutar.¹ If a man of your learning and singular talent in discourse designs only to palliate and contend it will be no easy thing to convince some men that you have made any great mistakes. But upon this private and Christian application (which you seemed to desire and expect) it may be hoped you will rather consider what is fit to be defended then what you can make look fair and that your skill in Apology shall be employed in makeing y^e most advantageous retreat you can from a ground w^{ch} cannot fairly be defended when it is considered how you have laboured by all y^e art and industry imaginable to make out the Peoples Electing to be a Primitive practice which should go a great way in Pointe of Right : It may be you wil not deny your writeing for Popular elections And then you will safily Judge how unreasonable it was for you to take y^e D : of St Pauls instances ag^t M^r Baxter and labour to confute them when he was engaged with those enemys of y^e church.² Again your representing y^e method for w^{ch} the church was enriched so very odiously your harsh censure of y^e mañers of y^e clergy from y^e first establishm^t of Christianity and makeing their maintenance so precarious and alterable. Perhaps on second thoughts

¹ Plutarch *Mordlia : How to tell a Flatterer*, § 1.

² On May 11th 1680 Stillingfleet, Dean of St. Paul's, preached a sermon before the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London and published it shortly afterwards under the title of *The Mischief of Separation*. In part it was a reply to Baxter's *Nonconformists' Plea for Peace*, 1679. A number of Nonconformist replies appeared, among them Baxter's *Answer to D. Edward Stillingfleet's Charge of Separation* and also the second part of *The Nonconformists' Plea for Peace*. Many answers appeared from the Anglican side, with counter-replies from the Dissenters. The Dean revised his sermon and enlarged it into a volume entitled *The Unreasonableness of Separation*. To some extent, connected with this controversy was one on the question of episcopacy, begun by Baxter's *Church History of the Government of Bishops*. Burnet preached a sermon before the Lord Mayor and Corporation in 1681, *An Exhortation to Peace and Unity*, in which he attacked persecution, though he felt obliged to countenance measures against Roman Catholics for the sake of the preservation of Protestantism. (For a fuller account of these controversies see C. E. Whiting, *Studies in Restoration Puritanism*, 1931, pp. 523-31.) Burnet did not mention Stillingfleet in his book.

you wil not think to have been wel done in an Age when men are ever ready to take from y^e Church then to give to it : Wherein many of the Clergy want necessarys by y^e Sacriledgious takeing away of Parochiall Tythes and few of them have any superfluitys : and finally wherein the faction and Pride the Atheism and debauchery the Envy and Covetousness of others hath made them more foes then any ill conduct of their own. In such a time to give severe Characters of this order of men in whose credit the interest of Religion is so much concern'd with and censured by yourself : The Animadvertor hath charity enough to believe many of these things slipt inadvertently from your pen in which good opinion he will be confirmed if he find your latter and more digested thought rather inclining to rectify then defend these things—for your assistance wherein (besides y^e reply which yo^u have already by yo^u or may have upon notice to M^r Rob Clavell y^e bookseller) he hath only sent yo^u some of his remarks on y^e former parts of your book which may suffice to give yo^u occasion to consider and find out y^e wst of y^e Mistakes which are as many and as plain in y^e latter part as in this w^{ch} is here considered : if they be kindly taken here and now or if it be desired their number may be easily encreased being already noted if otherwise these are too many. However y^e Animadvertor hath now don all he can to get your own hand of all other y^e fittest to do right to truth and if this Method fail : He hath some friends who wil oblige him to endeavour to undeceive y^e world and he hopes yo^u wil either excuse him or cañot condemn him for so doing : Since if he be forced to y^e last words, he wil proceed with all y^e meekness and candour imaginable for he assures you if he be compelled to be your Antagonist he wil never be your enemy haveing a breast so far from all rancor and ill wil towards you y^t if y^e truth be but vindicated or confessed in any method he is ready to declare himself if you think him worthy of that Title. And whatever be y^e event of this Address he wil still wish well to you and pray for you that your Parts may be employed to gods glory and y^e churches good, and that you may have a right judgement in all things which he hopes may be sufficient to demonstrate him (however he hath been censured) to be

S^r Your faithful friend and brother

The Animadvertor

82. GILBERT BURNET TO T.C.¹

A Copy of Dr B's Letter recd Feb : 2 : 1682.

Briefe notes upon it.

Sr

- (a) This is very strange since I sent a Copy of the reply to that Bishop 3 months ago with liberty to shew it to Dr B : & the Bp never returned that copy to me.

A fortnight ago the D: of Canterb: gave me your letter with the inclosed Paper: In it you likewise directed me to M^r Clavell for a Vindication of your former animadversions: So since the Bp of S: Asaph had neither sent them nor writ one word about them to me (a) I made one call for them as you allow me but I do not know how it comes about y^t they are out of his power, he promised to send them to me as soon as they were returned to him, but I have not yet heard from him: This hath made me so long in writing an Answer to your letter and Paper of which the heads were prepared the day after I had it (b) I must professe freely to you I am astonished at many of your remarks, in some of them you have read your Authors so carelessly, and in others you do not seem to have read what I writ but by halves so that it were too tedious a businesse to ravell into every particular (c) In these particulars you have me at some disadvan-

- (b) Tis plain the Dr (though he be very Quick) could not examine about two hundred Quotations in one or two days so that I must conclude he resolved to hold to what he had said before he had examined my objections.

- (c) Latet dolus in generalibus; tis early to say this, but if the Dr had any clear proof, it is scarce likely he should

¹ Bodl. MSS. Eng. Hist. b. 2, f. 69, in Comber's hand, with notes by Comber. The letter is dated 22nd January.

- balke me who was so particular with him.
- (d) There are threescore particulars wherein I have him at more disadvantage, and these seem to be confessed only because they are not much to the main point
- (e) No! hath he not the foul Copy? could his Amanuensis mistake the same thing fourty times over and he not correct it once in all the book?
- (f) Whether it were ignorance or negligence it was a fault in one that ventures his credit and his soul upon his right Citing
- (g) In my remarks there was here a far grosser fault noticed in aspersing this whole Synod, Prince and Bishops, most falsely: of which the Dr says not one word
- (h) But he that so grossly abuseth the Animadvertor for a supposed error of 28 years, should be more cautious then to mistake 300 years in Chronology
- (i) Tis certain he would not examine the paper within so little time; as to have his heads ready the next day.
- (k) Many who have read the Regale think the Dr represents this as an encroachment on the peoples right of election as he calls it
- (l) Not so; for in the inferior Clergy the Bishop examines & must approve.
- tage (d) The first is that I cite the Theodosian Codex wrong, how that came about I do not know, nor whether it was my fault or my Amanuensis (e) But all that know the course of my Education under a Father that was an eminent Civilian and bred me up some years to his own Profession will think it was not from my ignorance of the Code (f) I was also overseen in the direction of the letter to Carolus Calvus, of which you have observed rightly the true occasion but the citation is right (g) though there is a grosse mistake in the person to whom it was directed: I do also speak too generally of Sigebert when to distinguish him from modern writers I call him a writer neer the time of Charles the great though he lived 3 centurys after him (h) These are all the particulars I can Accuse my selfe of after I had examined your Paper (i) but I shall engage no more in small game but endeavour to satisfy you in the most important things.
- For the business of the Popular elections though I assert the matter of Fact yet I justify the Authority of the Bishops to confirm or reject (k) and that being now quite layd down (l) I am of the Side of the Church in this

(m) *latet anguis in herba.*

(n) In case of Bishops no doubt the Temporal power given them by Kings made it necessary for the [King] to nominate them: But I am not obliged to justify this.

(o) This sufficiently shows how very slightly Dr B examined the Author cited in the remark, for De Marca expressly laboured to prove that the rabble were excluded by the Canon of Laodicea & brings an instance within Nine years after that Council of a Bishop of Alexandria chosen by the Clergy & honourable Men of the City only, saying also that in another Author the inferior people are not mentioned at all, & this was afterwards called the Election of the Community or body of the Town. De Marca lib: 8 Cap: 6. pag. 387, 388: and if De Marca say this then Dr B: is not the first Author of this notion, and at most all he doth is to apply it a little earlier than de Marca doth or then any good proof is that it was in else.

(p) I thinke these instances of seditious nominations made & furiously prosecuted by the people in those Ages, are much lesse able to prove that the Nomination regularly began from the people.

(q) I have laboured to shew the clergy regularly chose without them & only received their applause & objections

particular: The King might well come in the stead of the people (m) But how the Church that had Authority enough to deal with the people and reject their election, is now divested of that right so that they act only Ministerially I leave it to you to examine and justify: You needed not have told me that de Marca observes that the Commune was the Common Council or representative Body of the Town, for that is in every Gloss(n) But he no where makes that remark of the Nomination of the Bishop being made by them & not by the rabble after they became Christian (o) but the Bishop, having a power to reject the person chosen and sometimes in case of disorder pitching on the Person will never prove that the common course in these ages was not that the Nomination began from the people at first & the Town Council afterwards (p) so upon the whole matter I give the Church more power than you do (q).

This charge you aggravate heavily on me, as if I had contrary to the particular esteem I owe to the Dean of St Pauls especially when he was engaged with the enemies of the Church, set my selfe against him in this matter: Sr I own to all the world that I

afterwards, & let the reader judge which gives most power to the church: He that gives the people a right of Nomination first, or I that make them only applauders *post factum*

value the D: of S: Pauls beyond most men I know in it, & when the Nonconformists fell in their rude answer so unreasonably on him, I both in a public sermon before the Lord Mayor on the Fast for the Fire expressed my resentments of that usage almost as plain as if I had named him: and in my Preface to the 2^d Volume of my History which was likely to live longer then any thing I should ever write besides, I recorded my valediction of him in the publickest manner I could possibly do, & this was during the engagement, and through that whole Volume I made digressions on purpose in every one of those particulars upon which the Separation was founded, And if you consider that it was not necessary for me to have don this, & will reflect on the time when that book was published, you will see how little occasion I have given for these aspersions cast upon [me] as if I were a secret enemy to the Church & a favourer of the Nonconformists (r) Thus I plainly shewed that I agreed with the D: of S: Pauls or rather with the Church in all his Conclusions, and though I differed from him in one of his premises which is only matter of fact & which I managed so as to draw the same

(r) These things indeed do seem a very fair apology; but the life of Judge Hales & memoirs of D: Hamilton & many passages in the regale look another way.

(s) Though this matter be finely smoothed over yet the D: of S: P had proved the people originally had no right of Election, nor further interest in that matter then as to their testimonial, & that where they exercised more power it was assumed (i.e. usurped) & exercised very ill, and consequently it was justly and legally taken from them, & D^r B: pleads for their right and labours to make out constant practice & that by the very instances of the D: of S: Paul: yet if that excellent person think himselfe no way unhandsomely dealt with I have no more to say: But only that all D^r B's former demonstrations of kindnesse rather aggravate then alleviate this public opposing him: And that every one may see that D^r B: draws a contrary conclusion from the matter of fact for he deduces the peoples beginning the Nomination and right so to do which the D: of S: Pauls expresly denys.

(t) And I have in my reply to that answer so fully spoken to this Matter that I need add nothing here.

(u) There are innumerable evidences in Fathers and Councils before An: 500; that they were claimed as due, & the neglect held to be a sin.

(w) Yet the law of this land declares detaining Tithes is contrary to mens duty to Almighty God and to good conscience: & that they are due to God & holy Church. Stat 27: Hen 8; cap: xii: & the divine right being supposed is the ground of that temporall law: Sed de his alibi:

(x) Yet it hath no more effect in persuading the D^r to confesse his most considerable mistakes and amend them.

(y) I wish these words be made good when there is occasion

conclusion from it (s) I had no reason to look on this as contrary to the high valedw I have of him, nor to the particular friendship I have with him.

As for the businesse of Tithes which seems to stick most with you I explained my selfe so particularly in my Answer to your Animadversions that I have nothing to adde to that (t) Nor do I see any cause given me to depart from my opinion, either as to the matter of fact that they were not claimed as a right of the Church for the first five Centuries (u) nor in the Eastern Church to this day: Or as to matter of right that they are not due by any Divine Law, but only by the Law of the land (w)

If upon this whole matter you remain dissatisfyed, & think it is incumbent on you to answer any part of my book I can say nothing against it: your way of proceeding now is much more obliging then it was last Summer (x) if you write against me fairly as a learned man and as a divine ought to do, I shall be very well pleased to find truth discovered though it be at my cost (y) And I promise you I shall not answer you unlesse you force me to it by unhandsom reflexions, of which you give me too great cause to apprehend not a few by what I

- (z) These I suppose are the worst & so are brought in for examples:

- (a) This is no great reflexion for in the beginning of that page 9th Dr B: lays down this position that the people & clergy chose: And presently he relates an instance where the Bishop only chose, which seemed incongruous, & though the unwillingnesse of men to go into Orders is mentioned just before this instance yet when the Dr saith he will give two instances of this, The second instance is thus concluded "by this story we may see the first nomination was from the people so that I might easily imagine that the main design was to make out the people's nomination

- (b) I taxed the Dr for not mentioning the repeal of this reflecting law when (that is plainly) at the same time when he mentioned the Law it selfe: if he says it was not in order of time to be set down as yet I foreseeing that objection noted in my remarks that the Dr went from Theodosius to Justinian's Code to remark that repeal of a Law again

find in your last paper of which I will give you 3 instances (z)

You object that page 9th I bring in Gregory of Neocaesara's being chosen by Phedimus as an instance that the person was pitched on by the clergy and people, whereas it is as cleer as any thing can be made in words that I bring it not as an instance of that, but to shew how unwillingly men were in those ages engaged into holy Orders, & to this purpose it is as pertinent as it had been impertinent to the other (a) You also accuse me that pag: 49 when I mentioned that law prohibiting widows to give anything to the Church I took no notice of the repeal of that by Marcian, whereas I plainly mention it when I came to it pag: 79 & this you had observed in your animadversions & accuse me for reflecting on Pulcheria but whereas, you accuse me for not noting that this repeal was occasioned by their mending this evill practice: I find not a word of that in the Law so from whence I should have taken this note I cannot imagine (b)

You also accuse me for dating Leo the Emperors Law An: 528 whereas he dyed Anno 474, to this I know not what to say, for I put the date upon the Margent 470, it is true I bring it in in

which favoured the Church. And though pag: 79 the Dr do mention Martian's Law, he takes no notice that it is a repeal of this Law. Again he did make many notes meerly (by?) Conjecture which reflected on the clergy even where there was no ground in the laws of w^{ch} I could give many instances, & therefore wished he had made one note by a charitable conjecture in favour of the Clergy.

(c) This should have been rather owned a mistake then censured as any reflexion, for my remark is not of that Law of Leo's, pag: 79 which is dated in the Margen An: 470 (as the Dr here in his letter mistakes the matter) but it is that Law in the end of pag: 80 which the Dr calls Leos Law and dates in the margin 528: that is 50 years after Leo's death: & can it be a reflexion to mind the Dr of so grosse a mistake? if he count this a reflexion I despair of ever writing against a book so full of errors without his censuring me for reflecting, though I never so truly and modestly intimate a mistake.

(d) I have no displeasure agt the Dr or any man who differs from me in Opinion, knowing how liable I & all men are to be mistaken. Only if they who differ from my Opinion go upon mistakes I hope I may (without such a censure) briefly point out the mistakes in them. And it is the defending the mistakes or slighting the notice that only causes me to have hard thoughts of any.

Justinian's reign being there to give an Account of all the Laws in his Code, yet since I added the year to it there was no reason to look for this remark. (c)

Upon the whole matter S^r you are at your liberty, & may do as you please only if I thought you had so good an opinion of me, or that I might adventure on a little freedom with you I would presume to beg that you would bring your mind to a more serene & charitable temper, & not think so hardly of such as differ in opinion from you as it seems you do of me (d) which will adde very much to your other excellencys & will much encrease the esteeme of

Your most humble & most
faithful servant

G.B

the 22th of January
1683.

83. DR. GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

Jan 30. 83

MY DEAR FREIND.

Last Saturday was the first day that I have been at Lambeth, since I received your last packet, to which I saw last night in Mr Clavel's hand, an answer from D B directed to the *honoured Animadvertor*, from which I guesse he intends to be friends with you and I should be glad to know what he hath said to you, believing he hath written nothing, but what it was supervised by the Bishop of St

Asaph and the Dean of Canterbury. When I went to Lambeth I first went to Mr Morrice, from whom I received your two papers, the Answer, and that about the popular Elections. He is very well satisfied with them, with both, but desired me to tell you of 2 or 3 things as to the latter. First the *parabolani*¹ of Alexandria were not monks, but inferior officers of the Church to look after burying the dead &c. 2 That St Chrysostom *De Sacerdotio*² owns that he was elected by the people, tho' Dr. B took no notice of, and 3^{dly} he saith that there are more instances of popular elections then Dr B hath brought.

As for your Answer, he also said it was a full answer to Dr B's Reply, and when I asked him what his Grace thought of it, he told me he committed it to him, having no leasure to examine it. I asked him if he had reported his opinion of it to his Grace, to which he answered no; which made me resolve not to speak of it to his Grace, unlesse he offered a fair occasion, which he did not, and I was the more confirmed in this resolution, because he told me, that he wished the difference between you and D^r Burnett were well made up, which makes me presume that his countryman, the Bishop of S^t Asaph, hath tampered with him and the Archbishop not to interest themselves in the difference between you and the D^r that you might not have so great an encouragement to expose him; though my private opinion is, that his Grace had far rather he should suffer then you. Your answer is now in M^r Clavells hand, and the paper of popular Elections in D^r Cave's, to whome I went yesterday to Whitehall, where he is now in waiting, to deliver it unto him.

I have sent two of my answers to Julian to you, which I hope you have by this time received. I desire you to give one of them to M^r Bridges, with my humble service, and to send me your opinion of the sufficiency, or insufficiency, of the performance. The reason why I delayed so long going to Lambeth was because I durst not go till my book was done, that I might present it to the Archbishop, who had been very inquisitive when it would be out.

I pray let me know what D^r B hath written to you, and in what manner; Your queries were of such a nature that I think he can

¹ The *parabolani* attended the sick and dying and performed duties to the dead. They were not an order of clergy, but a kind of gild.

² St. John Chrysostom wrote about 302 A.D. his *De Sacerdotio* in six books, perhaps his ablest and most eloquent work.

write nothing to the purpose, unlesse it be to tell you that he will correct the *Regale* with his own hand.

I hope you never forgett to present my service to M^r Denton and your Lady, tho' in hast I often neglect to desire you to do so, it is always understood. You have not yet told me whether you gave Cosen Henry Hickes 40s on my account, as I desired you, I am very ready to repay it as you will direct. And will ever be

Your most affectionate and
faithful friend, and servant

George Hickes

for the Reverend D^r Thomas

Cumber in

York.

84. DR. GEORGE HICKES TO T.C.

February 14. 168 $\frac{2}{3}$.

MY HONOURED FRIEND,

Dr Cave and I have considered together the whole contents of your last letter to me, and are of opinion, that now your answer should not be printed against your proud, and immovable Antagonist, but that in the next edition of your history of tithes, (according to your own method), you bring in by way of objection all that D^r B hath objected against tithes, and so take occasion to digresse about popular elections, without mentioning D^r B's name or citing the *Regale*, but only saying, as a *late author*, or a *late author of note*, or a *late learned author* &c, and that as seldom as you can. Secondly we are of opinion that you should write a very smart letter unto him, in which you ought to reply fully to his last whiffling letter, and charge him home with his *disingenuous* practises, and to desire him, if he have any more objections against your book of tithes, to let you know what they are before you finish your appendix. We think your reply to his letter ought to be more full then your brief notes upon it, and that you keep your letters and his answers to them carefully, for your own vindication, as opportunity shall hereafter serve.

I will on Saturday next tell my Lord of London what hath past between you and your Antagonist, and what course you now intend

to take, and that Dr C and I have advised you to it, and I believe he will not dislike it.

You must attribute my Lord of Cant[erbury's] neutrality principally to his *timorous* temper and M^r Morrices to his freindship with the Bishop of S^t Asaph. I sent you down your paper of popular Elections by the last post, and payd your money to M^r Clavell, into safe hands I delivered the paper. Before I received your last, M^r Clavel had delivered your answer to D^r B. I ordered him to go to him, and require it again, when I get it I will put it [into] new hands, till most of our considerable Brethren have seen it.

I wonder you have not received Jovian. M^r Clavell had two to send you, whereof you are to give one to M^r Bridges. It gives (I thank God) very good satisfaction here, the first impression is gon, and a second, more correct, is now in the presse. But my Antagonist despises it, says he will answer it with a wet finger, and huffs among the party, who blow him up at an incredible rate. He is truly an Ecclesiasticall Milton, the most impudent and ill-natured fellow that an honest man can have to do with. I hope God will assist me, and enable me to go thro' with so good a cause. I add no more but that I am

Your most affectionate and faithfull
servant George Hickes

Pray when you have had Jovian let me know your impartiall sense of it.

This for the Reverend Doctor
Thomas Cumber at
York.

85. T.C. TO DR. BURNET

Feb 26.

SIR

It takes off from my wonder at diverse passages in your last letter, in that you tell me you had prepared the heads of your Answer to my letter and papers, the day after you received them. From whence it seems you resolved what kind of reply to make, before it was possible for you to search and compare half the quotations in those Queries. This makes me more patiently to bear the censure you pass upon me, of reading my Authors carelessly, and your book

by halves. And this gave me occasion to suspect you had read my queries in that manner. And upon a more particular search, I find too evident proofes of your hasty reading my remarks, in those very few Instances which you mention. First you say De Marca doth nowhere make that remark of the nomination of the Bishop by the Common Councill, or representative body of the town, and not by the Rabble, after they became Christian. But if you had searched that place which I cited, namely De Marca lib : 8. cap 6, pag : 387, 388, you must have seen, that he labours to prove that the Rabble were excluded by the Canon of Laodicea :¹ and gives an Instance of an Election at Alexandria nine years after that Councill, made by the Clergy and honourable men of the City, the Rabble only favouring and applauding. And he tells us another Author wholly omits the mention of the people in an Election, speaking only of the honourable men of the City, and the Bishops Electing. And he afterwards mentions an order, that He should be Bishop, whom the Clergy and the Commune, i.e. the body of the City (leaving out the people) should choose. So that I had rather conclude you never took time to vew this place, then suppose you to have seen this, and still affirm your selfe to be the first author of this observation, and deny that de Marca any where makes it, who indeed furnished you with most of what you say in this matter. 2^{ndly} you Reckon it one of the three unhandsome restrictions, that I charge you with dating a law of Leo's 50 years after his death,² and to excuse yourself say, that you put the date upon the Margin Anno 470 wheras if you had seriously compared my Queries with your book, you might have seen that the law which you date Anno 470, is in your 79 page; But that law of Leo's which I charge you justly for dating wrong, is in your page 80 (as my paper of Queries would have informed you) and this law you date in the Margin Anno 528. that is above 50 years after Leo's death. So that this is a gross mistake of yours. And certainly you would never have called it a reflection of mine, if your hasty glanceing on my remarks had not made you overlook (page 80) and truely this gives me ground to think, you never examined my

¹ The Council of Laodicea (Baronius says 314, while other writers make it somewhere between 314 and 372—the earlier date is more probable) decreed that a bishop should be appointed by the metropolitan and his provincials, and forbade the election of priests by the people.

² Leo I became Eastern Emperor in 457 and died 474.

Queries with care, I suppose because you thought them not worth your notice.

As for the other two Instances you give of my inclination to reflect upon you, I do assure you they were not so intended. In your page 9, you lay it down as certain that the Clergy and people chose in that age. And the first example which you mention in the [10th] page is of an Election made solely by the Bishop. Now though you do speak of mens unwillingness to enter into holy Orders, between your account of the method of Election, and this Instance; yet it seemed so incongruous that your first Instance of matter of fact, should differ from the account of the generall practice in that Age, given in the same page; that at least it deserved a Query. Especially since you conclude the paralell story to this in your page 11 thus (by this story we may see the first nomination was from the people). The other Instance is about Marcions¹ law, which though you do cite p. 79 yet you do not mention it as a repeal of that harsh and reflecting law, cited in your page 49. Nor do you take any notice in that page 49 that that Invidious law was ever repealed. And the blame in my paper is, (not for never mentioning Marcion's law, but) for not mentioning it there, in abatement of that severe reflection you had made upon the Clergy as occasioning it by devouring widdows houses; and forseeing you would alledg that this was not the proper place, since Marcion's Law was in Justin: Code, I did observe, that in your 51 and 52 pages you had gone from Theodos: Code to Justin:² for the repeal of a law made in favour of the Church. And I must now add that you have very frequently ventured to tax the ill manners of Clergymen, as the cause of diverse hard laws upon them, without any ground from the Laws cited, merely by conjecture. And I know not why you might not have conjectured charitably, that the amending their manners was the occasion of repealing those harsh Laws: though the words of those repeals do not express so much. So that I hope upon second thoughts you will not call a private and modest intimation of your

¹ Marcian. Eastern Emperor 450-57.

² Theodosius II ordered certain lawyers to collect and arrange the constitutions of the Empire from the time of Constantine to his own. The resulting *Code* was promulgated in 438. Justinian (527-65) issued a new *Code* in 529, and a *Digest* of the writings of the chief lawyers of the Empire in 533. Additional laws *Novellae* were issued later. *Novellae* cxxiii and cxxxvii deprived the people of any share in episcopal elections. In practice the will of the Emperor prevailed.

unkind dealing towards those of your own order, in some of the best ages, by the undeserved name of a reflection upon you; or however not expect I should own it, while you are not pleased to retract many more considerable reflections upon some of the best of ancient times.

As for these three mistakes you own, they are plain enough, but are farr from being either the plainest or most materiall, which that paper had noted. They are chiefly in Chronology, wherein you had very severely exposed the Animadverter, for a farr less and supposed mistake. But why you do not confess the injury you did Carloman and Pipin¹ with their Synods of Bishops, in saying their Care was to restore Church lands, but they did not endeavour to remove the Scandalls given by the irregularities of the Bishops and Clergy. This was a worse and as plain a mistake as that of puting Carolus Calvus² his name for that of his brother's. Again I did not only blame you rightly for misdating Leo's law, but for omitting a peece of the Law it selfe, page 80, namely that it was only to be extended to the Churches under the jurisdiction of Constantinople: And of this you take no notice.

Many other weighty charges I think there are, and very just ones in these Queryes, to which you decline giving a particular Answer; and say you will ingage no more in small game: and if you account these things small game, I must declare I shall ingage in them no more with you. Nor will I give you the trouble of repeating any more particulars: for I perceive you are resolved to correct none of your mistakes your selfe, and still hold the Conclusion: which you are very wellcom to do, since you give me leave to write against all or any, part of your book, only with this proviso, that I make no reflections. Truly, Sir, I know not what you will call reflections, but I dare assure you though I am forced to discover many mistakes in your book, I will not mention your name at all, nor your book but very seldom; and will confine my Selfe as much as may be to matters of fact. And though I cannot pretend to write like a learned

¹ Carloman and Pepin, the two sons of Charles Martel, convened a Council of their two dominions in 745 at Estinnes in Hainault, at which measures were taken for the reform of the clergy.

² Charles the Bald, born 823, King of the West Franks 843-77 and Emperor 875-77. His two brothers were Louis the German, Emperor 855-75, and Lothaire 823-55. The reference is to Burnet, *Rights*, pp. 161-8. Burnet was quite correct in saying Charles and Louis fought Lothaire in A.D. 841.

Man, I will write fairly and as a good Christian. And to shew you I aim at nothing but (what I hope you also desire viz,) the finding out of the Truth; I will in a friendly way, communicate my design to you: The Answer to your reply upon the Animadversions (which now I hear you have [?written]) shall not be made publick. But now you know my name, you also know that after a very diligent search, I had published a book concerning the divine right of Tithes; And though I am too conscious of my own Infirmities to expect all men should be of my opinion, or to think hardly of any person for differing from me therein: yet I was somewhat surprized to find that opinion esposed by one of my own order; som of the Authorities that witness it, slighted as forgeries, without any Answer to what I and others had brought to justify them, other testimonies concealed, and those which were produced strangely misinterpreted: when I find the Antiquity of Tithes denied, the Originall of them as well as the payment represented as unjust, and the Donors of them, and their Indowments set out with characters of dishonour and often without cause; I confess I thought a Clergy man (whatever his private Sentiments might be) ought not thus to have treated an Opinion, that must be granted at least to be pious and probable: And it had been a guilty silence in me to have wholly passed by this discourse, especially when I was well assured, there were very great mistakes in it, as well in the matter of Tithes, as in that of Popular Elections. Yet the respect I had for your other Volume, made me use all possible Methods to procure your own hand to make som amends. And if you will judg impartially, and consider what matters I had to object, you must beleeve I had no design to hurt your reputation, but proceeded with as much tenderness and respect as the case would bear. And now since you leave me to my liberty, and I was (before this occasion) about to reprint my History of Tithes with some additionall Observations, I will freely acquaint you, that I do resolve taking into that Appendix, the most materiall of your Arguments and Instances against the divine right of Tithes: and perhaps also against the Clergyes right of Electing; and will endeavour to answer them: and shew upon what wrong grounds, my former assertions have been questioned, but this I will do, without anything justly to be called Reflections. And now that I have been so plain in discovering my purpose to you, with a freedom

that may become even friendship it selfe: I shall (if you think it worth your time and paines) desire you to read over the Answer and Queries carefully: And if there be any thing in them, or in my history of Tithes, that you can make out to be mistaken, you may any time within three months signify the same to me, and I will honestly rectify it in my designed Appendix; For I would be as unwilling to charge you wrongfully, as you can be to be so charged; and it is only truth, not victory, I aim at.

As for what relates to the Dean of S^t Pauls¹ in your last letter, I know what character you had given of him, and that increased my wonder that you should in express termes dispute against his assertions. And yet if he do not think he was ill dealt with, I have no reason to urge these things any further—I also knew you had said many things very well for the Church of England: but this book caused not only me, but many others to think you had changed your mind and that (as my Lord of S^t Asaph expresses it in his letter to me) your circumstances might have had some ill influences upon you. But since I know you may do God and the Church good service, I will rather labour to persuade you in, if you were out, then cherish any suspicions of your laying aside your affections to the Church of England while you visibly remain in her Communion. And yet since thousands besides my selfe are inclined to some of these suspicions, you should rather think it arose from some rash speeches of your own in some of your later Tracts, then impute it to my peculiar ill temper, who shall be more easily satisfied of your good meaning than many others will be, till you have corrected some of those things, which occasioned the aspersions you speak of. I doubt I have been tedious but I was willing to give you a full account of my thoughts: and resolve to give you no further trouble with my little matters, unless I hear further from you. Wherefore I shall only begg that till you have more knowledge of me, you will in Charity hope the best of my temper, and be assured that as far as truth will allow me, I will ever pay you a just respect, and remain

Sir

Your friend and servant

Tho: Comber

Febr: 26. 1682

¹ Stillingfleet.

86. DR. GILBERT BURNET TO T.C.¹

SIR

I Received yours of the 16th² Febr last night and tho by the speedy return I make you I shall perhaps again fall under your censure yet I must venture on it for I can lose no ground with you been already so ill stated in your thoughts that I have nothing to fear from thence for treachery and Knavery are the worst characters possible. And by your Reply which I kept till I had the leasure to read it thrice over I see these are the Impressions you have of me And to refresh my memory you Insinuate them a little more gently in your last. After this I have nothing more to say, for If I had that opinion of any other man I would consider him very little after that. And I might tell you that when I find any entertain these thoughts of me I think they ought to expect nothing from me after that but that I should love them as my enemies and pray for them as for those that have despitefully used me And therefore I am not at all concerned whether you print your Reply or not or the long letter with the paper of Observations I had from you two months agoe—but shall so farre assist you that if you did not keep copies of them I shall send them to your Stationer whenever he calls for them together with your last letter, If you have a mind to it. And then I will either quite sit silent and bear all your reproaches and all the triumphs of your friends the best I can or will Justify my Self as I see cause And as my friends shall advise me. I hope I have behaved my self in the world with that Sincerity. And have particularly shewed it in what I have write that I have reason to despise the Imputations of baseness or disingenuity, or that I am endeavouring to undermine a Church while I live in her Communion. And I pray what should make me continue in the Church so long If I were not truly of it I that have served in it these 9 years without getting one farthing of its revenue or advantage of any sort. It is well enough Known that had I been a dissembler I could have had long ago advantages of another sort than I can ever reasonably hope for. Nor have I ever shewed the least resentment to either persons or things for any supposed ill Circumstances I may be thought under.

¹ Bodleian. Add. MSS. D.23, fol. 99.² He means the 26th.

And if I could bring my self to a very small degree of that Villany you charge on me of acting a part, I am not so little considered but I could quickly be in a condition much above what I thank God my ambition ever aimed at. And why you should think I envy the wealth of the Clergy or wish to see them stript of it I cannot Imagine when I doe not find that any who preached before the house of Commons did so aggravate that matter and presse home the Poverty of the Clergy more upon them than I did. And as I enlarge upon it in the preface to the 2^d Volumne of my History So upon every occasion given me in that work I touch upon it with all the plainness and zeal that I thought the thing required And yet if I had any spite to the Church or Churchmen these were the fittest times and occasions I ever had to shew it. And in my Preface to this last guilty book I assert the Divine Right of Episcopacy so positively that I have reason to say I have given no cause to anybody to conclude I have changed my mind. What you mean by my other Tracts in which this appears I doe not know Nor will I trouble my self to make conjectures. And though my Lord of S^t Asaph is a person on whom I depend as much as I would doe on my father If he were alive, yet I cannot Imagine what made him write what he did in excuse of me to you unless it were that he thought that such resentments might Perhaps work on you, and so he hoped his Consideration might have some effect to blunt your edge as to me I have had not Long agoe an occasion publick enough to shew how little the resentments for a course of many years injuries wrought on me and have drawn a storm on my self by my endeavours to serve those when they were brought Low that had been my most malicious enemies when they had power¹ and my refusall of many great offices that have been

¹ It is difficult to say to what particular affair Burnet here refers. In 1678 he incurred Shaftesbury's enmity for his early position with regard to the Popish Plot, and he offended both the King and the Opposition by his endeavour to be fair to both sides. He addressed a letter to the King urging him to reform his life. He was at first on terms of friendship with Lord Halifax, now in retirement at Rufford. He became an Exclusionist and so fell out with Halifax. When Lord Strafford was condemned he revealed to Burnet and the Bishop of London a scheme of general toleration supported by Shaftesbury and the Duke of York. Though he saw through the wickedness of some of the Plot witnesses, he preached a strong anti-popery sermon before the House of Commons on December 22nd 1680. "I had been," he said, "much trusted by both sides, and that is a very dangerous state, for a man may come upon that to be hated and suspected by both." His intimacy with Russell and Essex offended the Court party. His renewed relations with Halifax offended the Whigs. He got into more hot water by trying to make the best of the Scottish Test

made me both in this City and in the Countrey¹ of which some are very fresh shewes that these things are not so much considered by me that resentments for missing of them should so far transport me. I have some reason to write on this head with some heat & concern for a patience under some accusations looks so like the mistrusts of guilt that I think I owe my own Innocence a more than ordinary warmth, when I am so accused. And as for the point of Tithes which I see is so dear to you I tell you plainly that as you state it I neither think it a pious nor a probable opinion. And as there are some things which a very little consideration discovers so plainly that all that can be said against them cannot change a man's thoughts concerning them so that whole Volumnes write for transubstantiation or absolute Reprobation tho they were such that I could not answer them yet would never change my opinion a Jot So I reckon the Doctrine of the Divine Right of Tithes as a revenue to Clergymen so far from probable that I am so firmly persuaded against it that all you have said or can say for it will never change me tho it were so strong that I could not answer it which I beg pardon to tell you I did not at all find in your book And I do think the asserting it as you doe gives the same prejudices against other things which are truly of Divine Right that I have found among some of the Chuch of Rome who having heard the pretended miracles of their saints vouched as confidently as the Miracles in the Scripture came thereupon to believe or rather to disbelieve all alike. If you speak of the proposition that people ought to set off for pious uses it is quite a different thing. And I thank God neither my Practise nor my Directions to those who are pleased to be advised by me are so scanty as to be confined either to a single or a double tithing but perhaps reach to a third tithing. And as for your displeasure of what I say of the Corruptions of the Clergy I must bear that likewise the best I can for I cannot change my opinion about it neither. For I think both the Atheisme and Impiety the Heresies and Schisms that are or have been in the world have risen chiefly

Oath, of 1681, and his efforts on behalf of Argyll gave still more offence. Clarke and Foxcroft, *Life of Bishop Burnet*, 1907, pp. 155-76.

¹ In 1681 the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's offered him an important City living, and the Earl of Essex offered him a good country living on condition that he did not reside. Before he fell out of favour with the King he had been promised the reversion of the Mastership of the Temple.

from hence. This is the Chief prejudice under which Good but weak minds labour. And is the only sure grounds on which all Malicious Enemies to God and his Church can build And when I see how soundly many abuses are Laid open and universally condemned in the Gallican Church which are so cherished here by many that if a man but names them he draweth a nest of Wasps about his ears. I cannot but Look on this as a worse Symptone of our condition than many others that are more Visible and affrighting. And in this matter I am sure I have the best Writers in many of the Ages of the Church on my side Even the Pastorall care is so universally neglected in its Chiefe Instances those that are truly concerned in the presentation and welfare of the Church ought to be forgiven if this raises in them a deep and Just Indignation even tho that might on some occasions Carry them a little too far. And for the matter of Popular Elections I cannot comprehend how those who pretend to Justify this Church in everything can condemn them and assert the Right to be in the Clergy. Since it is certain that the Clergy does not elect in England and that the Popular Elections continue. For as the Popular Elections continued when they were Contracted from the Rable to the Common Councils in the Cities for they still continue being vested in the Crown the Prerogative being in things of that kind nothing but an aggregate of the Rights of the People centred on the Crown So that if the people had not the Right the King has it not nor could the people other wise give it or establish it by Act of Parliament. For as when a Democracy Changes into a Monarchy that which before Lay in the Majority of the People is vested in the King, but he has no more than they had So the Christian Religion in the first Ages being as to Civill matters in it a sort of Democracy the Emperours not Intermeddling in it. Princes by becoming Christians could have no other power but what the People formerly had as to those matters, since the power of the officers of the Church continued to be still as it was settled by the Apostles. So how the making out the Power of the Clergy in Elections can be anything but an Inversive against our present Constitution I do not see. This carries me to explain what I pretend to have cleared concerning the peoples Right accruing to the Common Council without taking it from De Marca who as he mentions but a few Instances so does not at all derive it from the nature of Government. In which what

belongs to a multitude by practise while they were a Lawless people which was the State of Christianity before Constantine (for by Lawless I understand their having no Law for their Religion or Government) did now come under the forms of the Roman policy as their Religion became a Legall thing which is very different from what might be done in some cases to prevent Tumults and from which I prove the Lawfullness of Centring this Right in the Crown. If you doe not see a difference between this and what he says I am not much Concerned. Nor am I so fond of the honour of making new Discoveries as to be in the Least displeased with you for taking it from me. And for the Citation of Leo's Law the paragraph in which you mention it beginning with the number pag. 79 I confess I minded that more than what you afterwards mention in the Line with the rest of p. 80 and so I went no further but that in p. 80 is so manifestly the error of the Printer who printed the number 528 twice Justinian being mentioned in the very next Line after that Citation that no man but he that had a mind to quarrell would have made any thing of it And as for your Exception to the Citation as being diverted only to the Patriarch of Constantinople and his Jurisdiction It is a Knownen enough maxime that all these Topically Lawes were by an equity and parity of reason extended to other places. And when it appears that in Justinian's time 30 pounds of Gold is the highest rate of endowed sees There is no great reason to think Constantinople was so richly endowed that they needed no oblations. I doe not look on the other particulars as so Important as to need any thing to be said concerning them but that I drew an answer to all the particulars in your former paper which I thought of any Importance is so true that tho I have no reason to be (*sic*) except you should believe anything I say yet I can satisfy anybody else about it and shew them my notes which I made upon the Letter and papers. I Shall trouble myself nor you no more in this matter but Leave you wholly to your own way. Only I must tell you that I am not so very simple or weakly good natured as to be persuaded by a few good words that a publick exposing me in print as a false disingenuous and ill natured man that cherished Sedition and faction was Intended as a Kindness to me. If these are Kindnesses I have reason very much to dread your resentments or displeasure. But tho I have had the Leasure at one sitting to Scribble over all this

paper I am as weary with the writing it as I believe you are with the reading it I doe not Know whether ever I shall have occasion from the Friendship I may meet with from you to subscribe my self as I am to doe, but I am sure the Injuries and Slanders I have met with from you oblige me to be very sincerely

Sir

Your most humble and most

Faithfull servant

G. Burnet

14 March.

I shall shew both your Letter

and this answer to our most

Worthy Friend the Dean of Canterbury.

87. T.C. TO ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT¹

MY LORD.

It is a great evidence of your Grace's condescending Charity and a mighty satisfaction to me to hear by my worthy friend that your Gr: is pleased to remember me and make most obliging enquiries after me at this distance. And this obliges me to give your Grace (who have been the cheif Patron and encourager of my Studys) a just account of my affairs of that kind: I had prepared a *reply* to Dr B's haughty vindication of the mistakes and obnoxious passages of the *Regale*, which your Gr: had seen, but for fear of interrupting your more weighty concerns: But those Friends of mine who did peruse it, were satisfyed that I had not only justly but modestly charged him in my *Animadversions*, since this reply discovered many more obnoxious passages in that Book: Yet I am so averse to controversy that waving all the advantages w^{ch} my friends thought I had against him, I have voluntarily suppressed this Reply, yea, I have sent both it and divers other remarks to Dr Burnet, in hopes (according to his profession in the preface to his 2^d part of the Hist: of the Reformation) he would have reviewed and amended his book in a second edition: But though he now owns divers mistakes in it yet he tels me he shall still retain his opinion and gives me liberty to

¹ Tanner MSS., xxxv, 222.

write ag^t his Book if I please : Which liberty I am obliged to take in my intended Second edition of my " History of Tithes " : since in this Book of the Regale he denyes the Antiquity of Tithes and represents their originall as not elder then An : 800 and then also got from the people by the fraud of Bishops and Priests pag 118 : 119 : rejecting divers proofs produced and justified by me by barely asserting them forgerys, reproching as well the Givers as receivers of them, and disputing not only against the divine right but the very Equity of Tithes among Christians : Now since I can proove he affirms these things upon false grounds it would be a criminal silence in me to reprint my Book and not confute these mistakes which have so dangerous an aspect upon the Churches welfare and are so greedily sucked in by her Enemys, and I hope I may sufficiently expose these errors without any Personal reflexions on my Adversary : Since I will only labour to give a true and perfect account of the Matter of fact : I confesse my circumstances do not afford me that convenience of all sorts of books and converse with learned Men which so comprehensive a subject requires, yet I will not omit to search Bp Cosin his Library at Durham (the choicest Collection in the North parts) nor those Authors w^{ch} my friends here at York can procure me : And when I have finished this Appendix I shall beg your Graces Opinion and Advice before the publication, and if it appear I have done what I could I shall hope for your Graces Pardon for what may be wanting that was not in my power to procure : In the mean time I make bold to beg your Graces prayers for a blessing on my endeavours which I do sincerely intend to God's honour the defence of truth and the Churches prosperity : And if your Grace be pleased to give me any directions My dear and worthy friend (whose house is my home at Durham while I am busy in that Library) Dr Greenvil will save y^r Grace the trouble of writing and carefully transmit your instructions to

My Lord

Your Graces most obliged and
dutifull son and servant

Tho : Comber.

Stonegrave : March 15th

1682

88. SIR H. CHOLMLEY TO T.C.

London hous this 23 March 1682.

SIR

Discoursing the other day with my Lord of London, he enquired very particularly concerning your self, and then said it was pittie you should live so much out of the world, and bad me enquire whether you would change your pressent preferment to be placed in London Minister to a rich small and honest Parish, where one sermon a week would be expected and this living in certain dry rents £180 a year, besides all kinds of perquisites at least £50 more the year with assurances of greater preferment when it falls may be wourthy of your consideration, so I pray you to think of the proposalls and let me have your answer so soon as you can, for I purpose to leave this toun in fifteen days who am

Sir

your humble Servant
H Cholmely

89. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

London. March 27th 1683

MY WORTHY AND DEARE FRIEND.

Tho I have used myselve so long to a secretary that I begin to bee lazy and seldome write to my best Friends unlesse when some matter of secrecy doth absolutely require itt: yet I cannot satisfye myselve to use any other pen than my owne, to give you an account (it being very pleasing to mee) of the good successe I had this day in presenting your . . .¹ to my Lord of Canterbury with my owne hands: for which end I came in to Toune from a Country Habitation, which for retirement and study's sake I have gotten near Hackney. In short my Lord received it very Gratiously, and spake to this effect. I pray M^r Archdeacon give my service to D^r Comber, and let him know that I am hugely satisfied with this, and all his Designes, and I pray God Blesse him in all his honest Undertakings: Hee is not at all deceived in any information of my kinde thoughts

¹ The missing word is "letter." See *Granville Letters*, Surtees Soc., II, 110.

of him. I have indeed a very Good opinion of him and all his labours and do not doubt but that hee will doe considerable service to the Church. I professe I never knew my Lord speak more heartily than hee did in this Reply to mee; and gave mee noe ground of . . . , but that hee is perfectly of your mind in this particular, as to Dr B:¹ And I am confident that you have had a wrong relation, if any body hath told you that he was cool'd. For tho hee did not Come to any very particular point, neither had time, because my Lord Clarendon and severall Considerable persons expected him; yet hee seem'd very warme, and could not give mee better Content, than hee did, in a great Intimation. I shall follow your advice (as I did endeavour to doe this day) to put on a little more than usual assurance: but I am afraid it being not naturall it will not well become mee.

I have not been able (by reason of my settlement in the Country) to visit Dr Cave, and Dr Hicks, nor Mr Lane neither to settle the Buisnesse about the Yeoman of the Guards; coming into London seldome but on Sundays to Communicate with Dr Beveridge² (my kind friend with whom I am now well acquainted, wee being ordained by Bishop Sanderson³ on the same day) who dined this day with mee at Lambeth and gives you his hearty Service.

The story about the Bishop of Ely's Death⁴ and my succeeding him, as some have written very formally from Durham, are very Idle tales: and have noe other foundation nor authour I suppose, than some such prating Fellow, as Mr Swinburne (a mere shuttlecock) whom you did meet at Dinner with my Lord Archbishop of York. The Bishop of Ely is very well, and was never dangerously sick; and so is Deane of Durham too,⁵ I heare, being again gotten abroad after a long confinement to his chamber. The Deane of Windsor⁶ likewise is much better than he was, but a very much

¹ Burnet.

² Dr. William Beveridge was at this time Rector of St. Peter's, Cornhill, and Prebendary of St. Paul's.

³ Robert Sanderson (1587-1663). Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford, 1642. Bishop of Lincoln 1660-2.

⁴ Peter Gunning, Bishop of Ely, did not die till 6th July 1684.

⁵ John Sudbury. Dean 1662-84.

⁶ The Dean of Windsor was John Durel, who died this year and was succeeded by Dr. Francis Turner, who was in the same year made Bishop of Rochester and in 1684 Bishop of Ely. He was succeeded at Windsor in 1684 by Dr. Gregory Hascard, previously Canon of Windsor.

decayed man. I waited on my lord of Danby againe last Sunday, and doe you all the Good offices I can there : and elsewhere, as opportunity offers it selfe. But I could not have any private Conference with the Archbishop to fling in any . . . concerning you : or my owne Great affair about the weekly Sacrament which above all other matters oppresses my mind. I am told by D^r Beveridge that it is intended to have one, when Pauls is rebuilt, there in the Cathedrall : and by the Deane of Canterbury, that they are likely to set up one speedily in their church; which will have a great Influence on all the Cathedralls in England. D^r Beveridge his devout practice and order in his church doth exceedinly edify the City : whose Congregations increase every week : Hee hath seldom lesse than six score, some seven score, and a great many young apprentices, who come thereto Constantly every Lords day with great Devotion. The D^r approves of my honest designs and hath Confirmed mee very much in my Resolution, and will bee, I promise myselfe a very usefull friend to mee. I shall endeavour to get an opportunity to waite on Sir Hugh Chomley, and make your Compliment to him &c. When your Folio comes forth¹ I promise my selfe the Honour of presenting it to the King; which will prove a very good application to my Sermon; which begins and ends you know, with my beloved Mistresse, the Common Prayer Book. I am heartily glad to heare of the welfare of your lady and family and particularly of the health of little Misse, praying for you all, and heartily begging your prayers, I rest. My Deare Freind

your most faithfull and affectionate
freind, Servant and Brother
Denis Grenville

My hearty service to
M^r Denton and his wife
If you get possession of
my staffe, I pray keep it
till wee meet

I shall waite on D^r Cave and D^r Hicks speedily, and give you an account thereof.

¹ The folio edition of *The Companion to the Temple*, published in 1684.

90. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE.

There is an unhappy difference between the Dean of York and some of the Prebendarys concerning Residence in the deciding whereof your Grace will be particularly concerned, and though my obligation to two Country cures and the residence I am bound in conscience to keep there may sufficiently assure your Grace, that I neither am nor can be a party to this contest, yet I think it my Duty to do my worthy friend M^r Stainforth² that justice and his Cause that right, to give your Grace a short account of both : As for M^r Stainforth he is a person of great learning and judgment; Of the best principles and of a most exemplary conversation : One who by his preaching and his life hath don great good in this City and eminent service for this Church, and would the Dean admit him into Residence he would be a great Ornament to it, and the same is said of D^r Cook³ (who joyns with M^r Stainforth in this Matter) by all that know him : They had both of them highly endeared themselves to our late most reverend Arch-Bishop, purely by their merit, w^{ch} made him heavily espouse their cause, and while his Grace lived he ceased not to presse the Dean very earnestly to forbear that opposition he made to their becomming Residents : Telling him the statutes of the Church limitted not any certain number and that the more worthy Men came in to keep Residence, though the profit would be somewhat lesse to the present Residentiarys, the credit of this noble Church (the best fabric in the Kingdom) would be still greater, and gravely admonishing the Dean that it would look ill, to them that are without, if barely for the private advantages of the few, such men should be kept off. But God not permitting his Grace to live to see the event he desired in this matter, I doubt not but when the equity of the Case and the deserts of the Persons are duly weighed by your Grace, they will find the same Favour from

¹ MSS. Tanner, 150, 99. Archbishop Sterne had died on 18th June 1683. This appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury was made *sede vacante*.

² See Vol. I, p. 20. He married as his second wife Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Dalton of Hawkswell. He was buried in the minster 10th August 1713. *Yorkshire Arch. Journal*, I, 277.

³ See Vol. I, p. 54.

your Grace, which they did expect from my Lord of York if the thing had been referred to him: I do beleieve there are no more of the Non-resident Prebendarys would desire to come in, though these two Gentlemen be admitted, yet I find them all to wish well to Mr Stainforth in this Cause, that so they may still enjoy that liberty the Statutes give them, to come in to protest Residence, if hereafter it should be requisite: Our Country cures are a sufficient bar to us at present, but if any of our circumstances should alter or any of the Residentiarys dye, we think it hard (supposing us duly Qualified) to be kept out merely because the Present Residentiarys interest requires it. So that your Graces favour which always uses to incline to the juster side, will highly tend to the doing right to these two deserving Persons, and to all the other Prebends who wish them well purely upon the merits of their Cause:¹ which since it will more fully be opened to your Grace by another and better hand, I will not be any further troublesome, but humbly take leave and remain

My Lord

Your Graces most obliged and faithfull
servant and most dutifull son

Thos: Comber.

York: Augst. 4th
1683

¹ The words prebendary and canon are used rather loosely in these letters. A man is a *canon*, not prebendary of a secular church: he is prebendary of his prebend in the church of which he is canon. In the case of chapters of the new foundation the canons become prebendaries, while some churches of the old foundation applied the term to non-residentiaries. At York personal residence was originally required of four dignitaries—the Dean, Precentor, Chancellor and Treasurer. Archdeacons who were canons came into residence for a shorter period than these four. The rest of the canons were members of the Chapter and were expected to attend its meetings. Henry VIII abolished the Treasurership. A number of the lesser prebendaries from time to time protested residence, but that number was never large. Protesting residence meant that a prebendary declared before the Dean his right and intention to enter on residence. After the sixteenth century, however, there was a great tendency to avoid the burden of residence, though the right of protesting residence still remained. There was a fund, known as St. Peter's part, which the residentiaries divided among themselves from time to time. It was a small fund and it was to the advantage of the recipients that their numbers should be kept down. By a statute of William III, 1698, it was ordered that there should be not more than five residentiaries at a time, of whom the Dean should be one. (*The Statutes of the Cathedral Church of York*. Leeds, 1900.)

91. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE.

The importunity of my friends both here and at London puts me upon a task very uneasy w^{ch} is to intimate to your Grace my own thoughts in relation to one of these northern places like to be vacant by the Promotion of the D. of Rippon. The Deanry of Rippon² is of lesse valew than the Preb: of Durham, but it lyes in the centre of my wives relations in a Country where I have a great interest and where I hope I might do much good and is within twelve miles of the place where I live, so that if your Grace judge me fit to serve the Church in that capacity I shall take it as marke of your Gr: speciall favour and will do my utmost to deserve that kindnesse: but since my friends had moved before I had notice, if this be disposed of to a good man I shall acquiesce: As to the Preb: of Durham your Grace knows it is the desire of divers in that body I might come in there and the convenience of two good Librarys invite me far more then the revennue, but that Bishop (I know not why) hath always opposed such as moved him for me, and I fear by his choice I shall never come there, the only opportunity therefore is when one falls into the commissioners hands (as it now happens)³

¹ Tanner MSS., xxxiv, 105.

² The deanery was not yet vacant. Thomas Cartwright, Prebendary of Durham 1672, became Dean of Ripon in 1675 and Bishop of Chester in 1686.

³ On 27th February 1681 Charles II issued an order that neither of the Secretaries of State should approach him for ecclesiastical preferment for any person or for any favour or dispensation in either of the universities without having first obtained the approval and attestation of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, or one of them, and that neither of the Secretaries should present any warrant for the King's signature, till the Archbishop and Bishop had given their opinion and attestation as aforesaid. The order was to be entered in the offices of both Secretaries and also in the Signet Office. (Cal. S. P. Dom., Chas. II, 1680-1, p. 187.) On 21st July 1681 the King renewed this Declaration and added as referees to the Archbishop and Bishop, the Earl of Halifax, Viscount Hyde and Edward Seymour. (*Ibid.*, p. 399.) On the 12th of August John, Earl of Radnor, was added to the Commissioners. (*Ibid.*, p. 407.) On 18th August the King signified his pleasure that the Vice-Provost and Fellows of King's College, Cambridge, should not proceed to the election of a Provost till the Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Preferments had reported and he himself had declared his pleasure therein. (*Ibid.*, p. 427.) On August 30th a Newsletter reported that the Commissioners had sat twice and that no petition for such purposes was to be presented by the Secretaries to the King unless approved by four of the six Commissioners. (*Ibid.*, p. 441.)

When a prebendary of Durham had been appointed to a deanery or a bishopric the King, by custom, claimed the right of filling the vacant prebend. Prebendary Daniel Brevint had been appointed Dean of Lincoln in the previous year, but the first vacant prebend of Durham after that, which fell to the Commissioners, was the first stall when Thomas Smith became Bishop of Carlisle in 1686.

and my good L^d of London promised me his utmost assistance when any such occasion fell out; and I beleeeve my Lord of Hallifax, who hath had some kind Characters of me will joyn if he be desired, and if your Grace please to promote it I shall not doubt but it may be effected. And since my good friends have begun to propose this before I was acquainted I will venture freely to acquaint your Grace what is the grand motive to my concurrence therein: I find these two livings take up very much of my time, and secular businesse (w^{ch} these circumstances of mine force me upon) is mighty uneasy to me and a great hindrance to those studys, in w^{ch} I could employ himselfe more to the glory of God the Churches good and my own satisfaction. Wherefore if I had such a dignity as would enable me to part with one of them I could have more freedom to mind the principall part of my duty, so that I hope your Graces kindnesse will excuse me for this seeming confidence in desiring your assistance in order to one of these vacancys, by which you will oblige many of my good friends and give me so much ease and convenience that while I enjoy the comfort thereof I shall be ever obliged to pray for your Graces prosperity and be still more engaged to continue.

My Lord

Newton. Aug:
1683.

Your Graces most faithfull serv^t
Tho: Comber.

92. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

York. Aug: 31: 1683.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE

My deferring to declare my acceptance of the Precentorship so freely bestowed upon me by your Grace and the L^{ds} Commissioners, was occasioned by the extreme distresse my deer wife was in when the news came to me: But since God hath mercifully heard my prayers and given me hopes of her recovery, I have had time both to think and enquire of the nature of that place, and I do very humbly and thankfully accept it returning your Grace and the L^{ds}

¹ MSS. Tanner, 150, fol. 100. To the Archbishop of Canterbury, *sede vacante*. Archbishop Sterne of York died 18th June 1683. This letter shows that at the end of August it was known that Dolben was going to succeed him.

Commissioners my most hearty thanks, the profits of it are about 90^l per an : and some contingencies after a little time may mend the valew of it to me : but that which I valew it most for is the neernesse of it to my two small livings, the nearest of which is within 14 and the other within 18 miles of York. The only Objection I had, was the great charge of Comming to it, w^{ch} will be with the first fruits at least 200^l, The falling in the Vacancy makes the great Seal to be necessary, and there must (I doubt) be two seals, one for the Precentorship and another for the Preb : of Driffeld annexed, w^{ch} will cost me 50^l more then it would have don, if his Grace of York had been the Patron, there must be also a double instalment w^{ch} Costs 24^l, and the First fruits are above yet. All this will be a little hard to me, who have bought books and don good offices for my friends to such a degree that I have little beforehand : Yet since it is so kindly bestowed on me by the Lords Commissioners I will not decline it. Only I must beg of your Grace that I may not be obliged to resign anything more then my Prebend of 40^l per An for it, for that is one preferment which had no charge annexed, for another little better, but of much greater expence : Could I have obtained that Deanry of R : w^{ch} my Friends of their pure good will first moved for, I might have kept this Prebend, and then I would voluntarily have resigned one of my livings (as I told your Grace) for that place is £150 p. An : and little or no first fruits to pay, but I have don with all thoughts of that : And since this will be so chargeable to me the first two years, it cannot be expected that I should lay down either of my Livings at the present. They are not both above £140^l per An : and I shall have nothing else to live upon for the first two years, and yet must live public; for I loose my Present Prebend And the Precentorship will all go in Charges, and it is not possible for me to answer the character it gives me, unlesse I have this favour : Your Grace knows I do in my judgment so much dislike pluralities with Cure, that though mine are so neer that I am very frequent upon each of them, and am sure I do reall service to both places, yet I will not keep them both, if I might, any longer then till the great charge of this income is over, that is, for this two years; which is so very reasonable a request (I needing no dispensation to do it) that I doubt not your Grace will not only consent to it, but labour to satisfy the other Commissioners (if it be ever urged)

that nothing but meer necessity compels me to stand upon this point : Perhaps your Grace will wonder why I do so fully resolve to accept the Precentorship with these difficultyes annexed, to which I humbly crave leave to reply, that I do not so much consider the temporall advantage to my selfe as the benefit I may do to the Public : I perceive I shall come into it with the favour of our New Archbishop who is a very good Man, and I find this City to be much pleased with this promotion of mine, So that by my interest in his Grace and in the best Men of this place, I am in hopes to do considerable service to the King and the Church, and both in the Cathedrall and elsewhere there is need of some regulations : I have dedicated my selfe wholly to do good and so I may be in a Capacity to attain that end I do not much consider other things, and truly I never did desire either preferment or an interest in any great Persons for any other purpose then the public advantage : My Books on the Common Prayer are printed in Folio, and one shall be brought to your Grace very shortly, they will be most convenient for Schollers in this Volume, and some desire them to give to some Churches : I pray daily to God to blesse and direct your Grace in all your great and good designs, and long to preserve you who are the encourager of all good Men, and have been always most ready beyond my deserts and my very expectations to oblige

My Lord

Your Graces most dutifull Son and

faithfull servant

Tho Comber.

93. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Sedgefield. Sep^r 25th 1683

REVEREND BROTHER

I thought fit to inform you that I have been using of late all the Interest that I had, in any considerable persons, who were very well Acquainted with my Lord ArchBishopp of York, to give him some seasonable Hints, how fit it would be for his Grace, to restore the weekly Celebration of the Sacrament in the Cathedrall of York. So

fair an Opportunity can never more be Gain'd till we have another Arch-Bishopp. For if it be not speedily done, upon his Arrival, it will not look like his Graces own Act, and be done too with the more Difficulty. For God's sake therefore Dear M^r Comber, Act your Part Faithfully in this Important Affair, and Season my Lord Arch-Bishopp's ear (which I do not doubt but you will Possess more than any man) with this Pious motion which effected by your In-deavours, will I am sure (after his Grace feels the Spiritual Advantage that will thereby Accrue to his Province) Indear you to his Grace, and all your Devout Friends. I have not only upon this Account, writ to D^r Beveridge and my Lord of Oxford,¹ but Address'd myself to my Lord the Arch-Bishopp of Canterbury, and I hope with all Due Humility and Prudence, in Pursuance of some Discourse I had with him at London, in his long Gallery. D^r Beveridge is the man that undertakes to Present the Letter, and give mee an Account of my Lord's Sense concerning it. I had a very kind and honest Letter from the Doctor since I saw him, which gives mee a great Deale of Incouragement in my poor Zeal for the House of God. I am wonderfully happy in soe Learned and truly Devout a Man's Acquaintance, and in an extraordinary Manner obliged to you, for that Information you gave mee before I went up to London, of his great worth which occasioned mee very speedily after, to make such Application to him, that hee Received mee very kindly into his Embraces. Hee is, I find, with his other great Vertues, so exceedingly humble, that he does not only Allow mee the Liberty to be his Monitor, but Comands mee so to be; and indeed there's none of you soe great or good, but you need such pieces of Service. And I hope you will never Deny mee this Priviledg. For I do not value the Friendship of any Man, that will not permit mee to Incite him to Doe good. I shall not repeat how great an Opinion I have of your Parts as well as Love for your Person: but rather mind you that People do Expect great Things from you, whom God hath made so great an Instrument of good unto the Church of England, by your Excellent writings. To tell you the plain Truth, unless your Zeal, as to Practice, does Answer that high strain of Devotion, which seems to be in your Pious Books you will not Answer Expectation: which

¹ John Fell, 1625-1686. M.A. Christ Church, Oxford, 1643; Dean of Christ Church 1660; Vice-Chancellor 1666-9; Bishop of Oxford 1675-86.

gives me a fair Occasion to Inform you that there are sundry clergymen in this Diocess, that take great Offence at some omissions in your Church of Thornton. The Clergymen of this Country do often pass through that Town, in their way to, and Return from, Scarborough; and have been very Inquisitive concerning the Practice of your Curate,¹ and Order of your Church, and have Discovered there is no Daily Prayers nor Constant Catechising and do often Twit mee in the Tēeth with the failings of my Master Comber. To Deale faithfully with you and mine own Soul, such Example does much hurt to my Jurisdiction: and does as much, I find, obstruct *mee* in promoting of *Daily Prayers* and *Catechising throughout the Year* as the Practice of the Cathedral of Durham, in omitting Weekly Sacraments doth hinder mee in bringing up Country Parishes to Monthly ones. I have Trumpeted out your Fame soe greatly, that I am under an obligation to Justify you in all Things as far as I can, and sometimes I am afraid, out of my Excessive Love, somewhat farther than I ought. But to confess Ingenuously, I cannot tell what to say as to this particular. You must Justify yourself. And the best way soe to doe, I conceive is to Reform it; especially at this Time upon your Promotion, and Obligation to be Resident at York that people may have something to make amends for your frequent Presence which they did heretofore Injoy. Wee of the Bishopprick, by the Practice of those Dutyes in places less considerable, and Populous than Thornton, know, that they must be Practicable there; especially when God hath Bless'd the Parish with a Rector, that is Able to Allure the poorer sort, by the *Loaves* as well as otherwise, as some have been forced to doe, for a while, at the first setting up of Daily Prayer in this Diocess. This I send you for the Tryal and Exercise of your Humility and Sincerity: at this Time of your Advancement, and if you will Requite my kindness by taking the same Freedom with mee, upon the like Occasion, you will more than ever Indear your selfe to

Your Firm and Hearty Friend

as well as Humble Servant

Denis Grenville

¹ William Walker was Curate of Thornton certainly as early as 1682 and remained there till 1694. John Garnett succeeded him in 1694 and continued till January 1700.

94. DR. JOHN TILLOTSON TO T.C.

Canterbury. October 13th 1683.

REVEREND SIR

Upon my coming hither, which was towards the end of September I moved our Chapter here about the Communion every Sunday according to the Rubrick to which I found them all very Inclenable and wee Resolved, God willing, to Begin it next month. In the mean time the better to prepare and persuade thereto, I have Dispersed among the Devout Familyes of this Church and City, a considerable number of the Sermon you are pleased to mention, so that I doubt not by God's Blessing but we shall always have a considerable number of Communicants. After we had Resolved this, I Received last week a Letter from my Lord's Grace of Canterbury acquainting me with his Intention to write to all the Bishoppes of His Province about it, after the practice was once Begun in his own Cathedrall. I am glad I can give you so good an Account of this Matter, and all things concurred so happily to the furtherance of it. With my humble service to M^{rs} Basire¹ I comit you to God's holy Protection and Remain

Sir

Your most faithfull and

Humble Servant

Jo: Tillotson

95. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Durham Sunday Morn: 6 a clock

4 Nov^r 1683

MY DEAR FRIEND.

I am in very great Hopes that I shall be able to set forth for Yorkshire, next Tuesday, bee at Bolton that Night, and at York about Friday, where if I do not find you, I shall Dispatch away a messenger to Newton: which I shall not bee able to see, I

¹ Archdeacon Isaac Basire's wife, née Frances Corbett, died in 1676, so this is probably the wife of his son Isaac, Lady Elizabeth, née Cosin.

fear, in my Returne. I pray order your Affairs soe, that you may be able to oblige mee with your Company, when I send you a Sumons to come to York.

Your good Intelligence and the D of Canterbury's, concerning the Restoring of the weekly Celebration of the Eucharist in the Metropolitall Churches hath Revived my Soul. For the Love of God, goe on in his Name, in the perfecting of soe great and good a work. Beseeching you to consider of, and to give me some Light, if you can, in Reference to your Inclosed Queries. I rest

Your ever faithfull and

Affectionate Friend, Servant and Brother

Denis Grenville

My Service to all your

Family

96. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

Stonegrave. Jan 5th

1683.

MY EVER HONrd LORD.

Your Grace's letter I read and esteem myself very unhappy that I did not know of your Graces design sooner, there is not any one living whom I have more reason or greater inclination to serve then Your Grace who have been the great encourager of my studys, and upon all occasions have obliged me in a high degree. But alas my promise was passed to a very worthy Man (upon notice of the Incumbents weaknesse) before I knew Your Graces and my Lord of Londons desires: And though this Person² be one that hath a just title to all the favours I can do him upon the account of his Merit and his Kindnesse to some of my neerest friends: Yet I have stopped the Presentation, and writ to him to set me at liberty upon so great an Occasion as this: his Answer is not yet come and before he had read that letter, he sent a pressing letter to know if I would confirm my Promise, which makes me fear the living is so considerable that he will not recede from that hold w^{ch} my kind

¹ Tanner MSS., xxxiv, 236.

² Dr. Barnabas Long, to whom Comber presented the living of Oddington notwithstanding this correspondence.

promise hath given him, without some compensation of neer the same valew, and I have nothing but this one thing in my power. As for myselfe, though I am half undon by my late Advancement (as tis called) by the charges of income and the necessity of beginning to keep house in a City: yet I design nothing to my own benefit, but only to put a very good Man into thát which is left to my Care, and to oblige my friends in so doing: And now I am so unfortunate as to be in danger to give offence, either to your Grace, if I do not give Odington to the B^p, or to my friend if I do, but when your Grace considers my duty and my reputation both require my regard to my prior engagement, and that I have used all endeavours to be at liberty to comply wth your Graces Motion I cannot but hope your Grace will pitty and excuse me if I be finally unsuccessfull in my attempt, and that my misfortune shall never be imputed to me for a crime, or any way abate your Graces kindnesse for me: And that I may do all in my power to deserve the continuance of your favour and manifest my sincere desire to serve your Grace, I have made a motion to my good Lord of London (who hath twice writ to me) on this subject and (if it be no prejudice to my Title by the delay) this proposal I will make good, and by that means my Lord of Glocester may have Od: and my Friend another convenience: And if that cannot be secured I hope I may be excused (in these circumstances) though my Friend will not release me, I desire to hear your Graces sense of this very speedily from my Lord of London or from your own hand, for I am in pain till I know your Graces advice and have some good assurance that I may continue to account my selfe

My Lord Your Graces
Dutifull son and faithful servant
Tho: Comber.

97. DR. G. HICKES TO T.C.

Jan: 17, 1683 $\frac{3}{4}$

MY DEAR FRIEND

I received your last letter, and the businesse of it requiring no speedy answer, I have so far trespassed upon your

patience as to answer it at my leasure, now after the preaching and feasting of the holidays are over, with the compliments I was bound to make to my superiors, and among the rest to the good Bishop of London,¹ with whom I discoursed about the living of Cataric.² But he protested to me, and I know it is true, that he is so burdened with, and so engaged to those whome he hath sent abroad in the ships, and into the Plantations, upon promise of getting them the King's parsonages (as you know he got my worthy friend M^r Bravell³ one in the Wolds) that he cannot encourage you to expect your request for your brother, which otherwise he would willingly do. All the ministers that were at Tanger,⁴ besides many others, now hang upon him, and if you could get a liveing for some of these men, I doubt not but he would secure Cataric for your freind.

I told him also what you said of the liveing of which you are patron in Glocestershire,⁵ and I beleive they intend, if any one falls in the King's guift as good, to get it for him to whome you are engaged by promise, that the Bishop of Gloucester⁶ may have yours, and if this overture be made I know not how you can refuse it.

As for the stop they have put to your book I have don all I can with M^{rs} Brome⁷ and Welles to remove it. She is rich and proud, and he sour and stubborn, and will not be convinced with all your arguments, and all that I can ad to them, insomuch that for your and M^r Clavell's vindication I have advised him to make them the follow-

¹ Henry Compton, 1675-1713.

² Catterick, Yorks. The living was in the gift of the King and was, according to Ecton, *Liber Valorum*, worth £25 per annum.

³ Richard Bravell, Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, B.D. 1680, was for a time Chaplain to the garrison of Tangier. He showed himself so useful there that when he desired to leave the Bishop of London and other important personages urged him to remain. He became Vicar of Welton, Yorks, about 1683.

⁴ Tangier, which became an English possession on the marriage of Charles II to Catherine of Braganza, was given up in 1683. There was no money for the maintenance of the large garrison.

⁵ The reference is to Oddington.

⁶ Robert Frampton (1622-1708). Corpus Christi, Oxford; Chaplain at Aleppo 1655-70; Dean of Gloucester 1680-91; Deprived as a Nonjuror.

⁷ Joanna Brome, widow of Henry Brome, carried on her late husband's publishing business at the sign of the Gun in St. Paul's Churchyard. Her name appears for the last time in the *Term Catalogues* in June 1683. Charles Brome's name next appears as head of the business at the same address. George Wells was also a publisher. His shop was at the sign of the King's Arms, also in St. Paul's Churchyard. The small book referred to is the *Short Discourses upon the Whole Common Prayer* which appeared in June 1684. The folio was the new edition in one volume of the *Companion to the Book of Common Prayer*. Both books were published by Clavell.

ing propositions, and to buy the whole copy at the rate it stands them in, and upon refusall of that offer to secure them that he will not publish the little book till six moneths after they publish the great one, if they will publish it presently, and at six moneths' end to take of them all the copies unsold at the rate they stand them in. These proffers, which I am sure they will not accept, will, however, stop their mouthes from crying out that they shall loose so much by having the little one printed upon the great one, and if they will not accept either of these offers, then I advise M^r Clavell to publish the little book, and leave them to do as they please, for they must be forced for their own reimbursement to publish the folio. And they make this cavill and delay to get a share in the little book.

Welles his stubbornesse is increased by Lambard¹ of Yorke, whose letter Welles, for his own vindication, shewed me, wherein he said that *you were mad, that they had found out your plot, and that they did well to stop the book*, and then added, *you may see what lies under a black coat, and how cautious men ought to be in dealing with a clergyman*, with more unmannerly language, such as could come from none but a fanatick in his heart.

As for your brother, if you have not yet sent for him, and payd him the 50^s, pray let it alone, and then give Cosen Henry Hickes 20^s, for of late I have found that he *holds correspondence for seditious newes with some of the most rebellious spirits among the mobile in this toun*,² one especially who calls and writes himself *Count Tekeli*³ and I desire you to let him know in a letter that I had

¹ Lambard. Printer of York. He printed part of the edition of the *Companion to the Altar*. 1675.

² There was a Henry Hickes who was one of those who had mingled with the Rye House Plotters. He was described as a tobacconist and an Anabaptist preacher, living in Friday Street. His evidence was taken before the King in July 1683. Roe, another witness, said that Hickes had told him that the Anabaptists could raise 20,000 men, of whom 1,500 would be horse. One would have thought, however, that if he were the person mentioned George Hickes would have known that he had been a witness. Still he did not appear publicly in the printed trials of the accused persons.

³ The real Count Teckeli, the English version of the name of Count Emeric Tökölyi, was the leader who raised a rebellion in Hungary against the Emperor and called in the assistance of the Turks. Roger L'Estrange applied the name Teckelites to the disaffected Dissenting leaders: "The business of the Protestants in Hungary is directly the case of the Dissenters in England." As the rebellious Hungarian Protestants joined with the Mohammedans, so would the English Protestants if they got the chance. One of them had said that they would be better off under Mohammedans than under Papists, and Titus Oates had expressed the wish that the Turks should take Vienna (*Observer*, Vol. I, Nos. 228, 394, 339, 408, 409, 414. Also Nos. 208-9. September 1686). As the Hungarian Protestants rose against the

ordered you to pay him 50^s, but now had retracted my order for the aforesaid reason. You may send your letter when you have an opportunity to my brother Oastler's house at Angerham Grange.¹ I am not surprized to hear that the Archbishop doth things that will make him popular, and heartily wish that he may do the popular and unpopular part of his duty with equall courage, integrity, and zeal. Here is little newes unlesse it be to tell you that the Thames is become a great market-place² and one of the commonest roads of the town, and that the hackney coach-men make a trade to drive people for curiosity from the Temple and Somerset-house to Southwarkside and back again. I have been very much indisposed by a cold, and am so kept under by the wether, that I have no list to do anything but sit by the fire and ly in bed. I hope you never forgett my service to your Good Lady and uncle Denton. I wish my brother John³ were as he is, it would much ease the troubled [mind] of your most affectionate and . . . servant

George Hickes.

For the Reverend

Dr Thomas Comber at
York.

Emperor, so the English Dissenters would rise against the King. Bishop Parker, *History of My Own Times*, 1727, p. 214, says, "At the same time broke out two conspiracies, one of Count Tekeli in Hungary, and the other of Oates in England." There are many similar references in the literature of the period; *A Collection of Loyal Poems* (1685), p. 296; Dryden's *Epilogue to Constantine the Great*, 1684. The *Hypocritical Christian* speaks of Henry Care and refers to "His too hot zeal for Teckley Reformation." The name Tekelites was very commonly applied to the Whigs. It is even found in an address to James II by the citizens of Carlisle in 1687. L'Estrange seems to have looked on Oates as the English Teckeli. A caricature of Oates in the British Museum, dated 1685, describes him as "a Teckelish true blew Protestant."

Partridge, the cobbler, astrologer, almanack-maker, wrote *Mene Tekel* in 1678, and there was more of it in his *Almanack* in 1685 and 1689. Dr. John Owcen, who died in 1683, preached a sermon on "Mene Tekel" the day after Charles I was beheaded. One of the leaders in the troubles of 1663 was nicknamed Mene Tekel. Though there is no connection in meaning between Mene Tekel and Teckeli, the resemblance in sound may have helped to popularize the party name.

¹ Brother here is brother-in-law. Angmering near Littlehampton, in Sussex.

² This was the famous frost of 1683-4. It began about the middle of December and lasted eight weeks. There were bull-baitings, horse-races, and a fair on the ice as well as the general traffic.

³ John Hickes, the elder brother of George. Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin; Ejected from Saltash 1662; a well-known leader of Nonconformity in the West of England; joined Monmouth in 1685, was captured and executed.

98. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Durham. 9th March 168³/₄

WORTHY AND REVEREND BROTHER.

I cannot forbear to make any Businesse, that you shall recommend unto mee, the Burthen of my Thoughts, tho' I am sure, I am in as difficult Circumstances so to do, as ever I was in my Life, by reason of the Breach, happened betwixt mee, and M^r Basire¹ which occasions so great an Interruption, to all my honest Spirituall Designes, as well as Disorder in my Temporall Affaires, that I wonder, that so kind a Friend as D^r Comber, should be so little concerned for one of his most hearty Lovers (so much I dare say for myselfe) as to take noe notice in his Letter, tho' I gave a fair hint thereof in mine.

As to your Businesse in Relation to the Living in Sir William Blaxtons² Guift, I shall doe all thats possible for mee and give you an Account thereof, If I can get time by Tuesdaies Post. I cannot promise you that the utmost I can do therein will be very considerable, for you are mistaken in the Person, for it is not my wives near Kinsman (Collonell William Blaikston)³ that had the Patronage of Danby super Wiske : but Sir William Blaikston of Gibside (which is no Relation of my wives, and in whom I have noe Interest at all, and who is scarce a kin to the family) a Ranke, and which is worse, a very debauched Papist, if not an Atheist : a Person with whom I am not willing to have anything to doe : However hee being a Man of great Humoure, and who by Fitts and starts will discover that hee is a Gentleman, and doe some Acts of Generosity, out of the Rode, I am Resolved to Attaque him and may chance to stumble upon some Topicks, that may Tempt him to give my good Friend your Brother in Law, a Promise of the Living : But how farr a

¹ Isaac Basire, Official Principal of the Archdeaconry of Northumberland, married Elizabeth, daughter of Bishop Cosin, and lived in the South Bailey, Durham. The breach was probably over finance. Granville was always in debt and owed money to John Basire.

² Sir William Blakeston, Knight, of Gibside, was the Patron of the living of Danby Wiske. According to Ecton it was only worth £9 per annum. Comber was trying to get the presentation for his brother-in-law Purchas.

³ Colonel William Blakeston of Old Malton, an old Cavalier officer, lived at Pittington Hall-Garth, was J.P. for the County Palatine and was M.P. for the City of Durham in 1679-80. He died 1st January 1684-5.

promise, from soe unstable a Person, will bee valid, you best understand. And I had rather spend my Zeale and Interest upon this Account, than medle with the Businesse of the Advowson. To manage a matter of money is out of my Rode, and to tell you the plain Truth, I am not fully satisfyed concerning such Proceedings, when Persons are visibly declining. It may bee as you state the businesse, and as your Expression is, Innocent Enough. But I have an ugly squeamish Conscience, that would have all my Actings relating to such matters Innocent more than Enough. Yet notwithstanding I shall not desist altogether in making some Attempts in this kind, as far as I can, with Honour and safe Conscience.

But I am sure you and I have something also to doe wherein the Honour and Interest of Religion, as well as of Conscience is a little more concerned than getting a Living for your Brother Purchas, who blessed be God is in soe good Circumstances of Reputation and Plenty, and in all other Respects, that if he did as my nephew Wheeler¹ a man of . . . resolves to do live awhile without taking any Preferment, it may not bee amisse. I mean the Accomplishment of my Lord of Yorks noble and Pious Designe to revive the Celebration of the Weekly Sacrament in the Metropolitall Church of our Province as it is in the other of Canterbury. *Hic Labor Hoc Opus*. Let you and I faithfully mind this; Preferment will come fast enough. I am Confident for so deserving a man as M^r Purchas, your nigh Relation, which consideration of it selfe, will procure Preferment for him, with great Ease, I hope, though he doe not live at Easing-Towne.² And I doe assure you I shall be so far from being wanting thereto, that I shall make it often the Businesse of my Thoughts, to do some good for him, in due time, without any Application. But to declare my Judgment freely, I am persuaded that to be your Assistant for a year or two in your Cure and you his Assistant in his Studies, and making him a Complete Churchman, would be most Eligible, and I foresee nothing but Carnall Reasoning can contradict it. I am of opinion that if he had not been diverted

¹ Sir George Wheler was the son of Colonel Charles Wheler of the Palace, Charing. Sir George married in 1677 Grace Higgons, daughter of Sir Thomas Higgons and sister of Granville and of the Earl of Bath. Sir George (he was knighted in 1682) had travelled in the Near East, became a Prebendary of Durham in 1684 and was Rector of Houghton-le-Spring from 1709-23.

² Easington in the County of Durham: one of Granville's livings.

from his Designe of Living here with me sometime at Easington (though he would not have had halfe soe much Advantage, as by you, in Point of Learning and speculative Divinity) it would have been more profitable for him, than the taking on him such a cure as Danby or Catterick. Not doubting of the Reality of what I say I have invited my nephew Sir George Wheeler (who writ the Travells¹ and went into Orders last year, in an Heroick manner) to come down speedily into the North, to live with mee awhile and officiate for mee in the same Circumstances that M^r Purchas was to have done. His brother my Cousin Wheeler,² whom you saw at Bolton, thinks this a very wise Course, and Joins with mee in using all Arguments imaginable to hasten his Brother downe to serve my Cure. Sure I am that it will be no unwise thing in mee to secure him, by reason that I shall thereby save the Expenses of a Curate (contenting my selfe only with a Deacon under him for one year) as well as enjoy the company and Assistance of a learned and pious Coadjutor, with whom I shall bee the better pleased because hee is a hearty *Lover and Honourer* of my *Master Comber* and a zcalous studier of his Common Prayer Booke.

But to returne to my old Topick of pushing the Weekly Sacrament (not to Trouble you with talke about my Temporall Affairs tho' by the way I might have been overwhelmed with them if the noble Lord Marquesse³ had not sent mee over my Cousin Wheeler with some seasonable Consolation and assurance that hee will stand by mee in this my Distresse, and Assist mee to the utmost of his Power) you and I are more particularly concerned in this Good worke than any other Clergy man that I know of in the whole Province, and I am certain that it is the expectation of some devout Clergy and People in these parts, that you and I should doe more than others. You are looked upon to bee the greatest Champion for the Common Prayer Book in the whole Country, (nay perchance in all England) with your Pen. And I am looked upon, to bee one of the more exact Observers of the Rubrick and Sticklers for Con-

¹ *A Journey into Greece*, 1682.

² Francis Gilborne Wheler, born 1655, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Arnold Brames.

³ Sir George Savile (1633-95). Viscount Halifax 1668; Earl 1679; Marquess 1682. There was no other Marquess at the time in England. Herbert attained the title of Marquess of Powys in 1687 and Danby became Marquess of Carmarthen in 1689.

formity. And I dare without Vanity or Pride oune, that I am an hearty Lover of the Booke and have in mee some Innate zeale for Order. Really D^r Comber this is a great and excellent worke, and will doe God more Service, than all your past writings, or my Past Indeavours since our first coming into the Ministry. It will have a wonderful Influence over all the North and Shame the other Cathedralls into the like practice, which Attended on with such a Circular Letter; as my Lord of Canterbury Intends to send to the Bishops of his own Province, would in a powerfull manner preach to all Inferiour Clergy, not only frequent Communion, but exact Conformity. And without all doubt those means that are of Christs own Institution and the incomparable Established Order of our own Church (the most unexceptionable Constitution of all Christendom) are the most probable means to Revive Religion, Devotion, Conformity and Loyalty in the Land. And assure your selfe this is the best piece of Service that wee can doe to the State (I could tell you of one of the greatest and best Statesmen who is of this mind, and who hath given mee Encouragement in my honest zeale with whom I have had some Conference concerning your selfe noewayes to your Prejudice). The State can never be settled till there bee more Conformity in the Church, and nothing gives a greater wound to Conformity, than Irregularity in Cathedralls and noe Irregularity more than this in Reference to the Eucharist.

Tho I have been a little too large, for which I heartily beg pardon, yet you shall learn from mee next Post or very Speedily, which is all at present, but that I am, Begging the Continuance of your Prayers and Assuring you and yours of mine

Reverend Sir

Your Affectionate Brother and

Humble Servant

Denis Grenville

For the Reverend D^r Comber

Precentor of

Yorke.

99. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MY LORD.

If your Grace would pardon me, I could not pardon my selfe, for writing to a person in your high station, if businesse were not the occasion and Apology for it. I hope your Grace is fully satisfied that I gave all the consideration in my power to your Graces intercession for the Bishop of Gloucester, and tis with some regret to me that in all this time nothing would fall out, to enable me to comply with your Grace's desire, if I can contrive it by a remove afterwards I will; I doubt not but my L: of London (wth whom I transacted this affair to ease y^r Grace of the trouble) hath related what I have don, and what I am in danger to suffer by the delay: My Lord, I recd a command from y^r Grace to let you see anything w^{ch} I intended for the public and having now some Papers which are a 2^d part to my History of Tithes and a full answer to all D^r Burnets spitefull reflexions (don with all modesty and candour to his person) I do beg the favour of y^r Grace at some of your most vacant hours to look them over and that you will please to admonish me of whatever is to be amended therein: My good Lord of York hath read them over and used his pen sometimes, for w^{ch} I am much obliged to his Grace: We are here very happy in him for he is very active in his station, but still the weekly Communions do not take, I have moved it with modesty, and am not denyed, but the thing is deferred for a while, I hope it may shortly do: The kindnesse of my good friends hath put me into a public place wherein I will serve the Church as well as I can, though the burden be greater than the present advantage: I hope when my residence is out I may come up to London, and wait on your Grace, in the mean time I shall not fail to pray for your Graces health and prosperity, as I am bound both in duty and affection, for your Grace hath ever been the best friend and greatest encourager of

My Lord

Your Graces most obliged and dutifull

Son and servant

Tho: Comber.

York. May 5th 1684.

¹ Tanner MSS., xxxii, 47.

100. PETER SAMWAYS TO T.C.

June 13, '84

GOOD COUNTRYMAN

I have bin a little thoughtful since I saw you concerning the interment of Papists. They are constantly excommunicated, and tis thought either absolved or connived at so far with their friends at Richmond that they have, either by allowance or permission bin suffered to bury their dead in the Church-yard for about 60 years, as one above 80 years old this day told me, in case the excommunications should be remitted (which I think our courtiers dare not declare) yet they persisting in their recusancy I see not how our office of Buriall can be administered without great offence both to Protestants and Papists. I believe that what hath bin done in other parts of Richmondshire hath bin done not onely in York, as you lately told me, but in all the County, if not in all the Northern Province. When the Chancellor returns I would willingly understand what he judgeth best shall be done in this case, and in the mean time if you have heard of any course that is more agreeable to the Statute that was made 3^o Jacobi, c 5¹ and 11, practised in other places, I pray impart it. Mr Nicholson,² who will give you this, is able more fully to informe you in this and other matters concerning the Baptism of Recusants' children than my time permitts me. Commending your self therefore and all yours to God, I rest your affectionate brother and servant in Christ. P Samwaies
Bedall, y^e 13th of June 1684

¹ The Acts dealing with Roman Catholics in the first three years of James I were: 1 Jacobi, c. 4. An Act for the due execution of the Statutes against Jesuits, Seminary Priests, Recusants &c. 3 Jacobi, 4. An Act for the better discovery and repression of Popish Recusants, and 3 Jacobi, 5. An Act to prevent and avoid dangers which may grow by Popish Recusants. The reference 3 Jacobi, 11, seems incorrect.

² There can be no doubt that the reference is to William Nicolson. Queen's College, Oxford; B.A. 1675-6; M.A. and Fellow 1679; Vicar of Torpenhow and Canon of Carlisle 1681; Archdeacon 1682; Rector of Salkeld 1682; Vicar of Addingham 1699; Bishop of Carlisle 1702-18; of Derry 1718-27. He was nominated Archbishop of Cashel in 1727, but died before his enthronement. He was the author of *The English Historical Library*, 3 vols., 1696-99; *The Scottish Historical Library*, 1702; and the *Irish Historical Library*, 1724. He was well known and was on friendly terms with most of the scholars and antiquaries of his time.

101. T.C. TO ARCHDEACON DENIS GRANVILLE.

York. June 23d. 1684.

Printed in *The Remains of Denis Granville*, Surtees Society, vol. xxxvii, pp. 181-3.

102. DR. PETER SAMWAYS TO T.C.

GOOD COUNTRY-MAN

I received your letter with the inclosed papyre the Statute of K James is not very expressive touching the interment of excommunicated Papists which is of late. I should not scruple to bury their baptized infants with our Church Office, but if any above 16 years of age should accidentally be omitted in the writs of Excommunication, yet because they never came to our Church, nor perhaps were ever baptized in it, to bury such according to our Common-prayer, would be offensive (as I apprehend) both to Papists and Protestants too. I am desirous to see York as soon as I can to debate things more fully with his Grace, and would willingly do it before you go to Newton. The Assize week is approaching, but it may be more convenient to come when the hurry of the Town is over. I pray if you have it in your prospect informe me when you leave the City, for I much desire to find you there when I come. Thus with my duty to his Grace, and service to your good wife, I rest

your humble servant in Christ

P. Samwaies

Bedall y^e 8th of July 1684.

I have your Gazette, and intend to bring it when I come. I cannot hear that Papists are otherwise buried here than they have bin in all the Northern parts of England, that is, in the Church-yard, without the Church Office by a connivance, which, if it may be retrencht, I think it would enrage them, but not win to come when they are alive to our assembling. There is an old saying τὸ κακὸν εὐκείμενον μὴ κινητέον.

103. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE.

My residence being finished for last year I designed, in this my six months liberty to have been some time at London, to direct the printing a Manuscript of mine which D^r Cave showed your Grace and to despatch some affairs with my Relations in Kent. But my deer wife is so neer the time of her delivery and Winter comes on so fast, that I must now defer my journey: In the mean time I have had so many testimonys of your Graces good Will to me, that I cannot doubt but your favours will extend to me in my absence And therefore I make bold to acquaint your Grace, that my good friend Dr Greenvil greatly desires my Company at Durham where he thinks I may be usefull to that Church and to him in the Station designed him, and tells me there is like to be a Preb: shortly Vacant: and if your Grace would please to speake to my L: of D: for me, his L^{sp} hath expressed so much kindnesse for me of late that I hope he would grant either this or at least declare his intentions I should have the next which falls there: I had not presumed to give your Grace this trouble but only that I have been told from very good hands that y^r Grace designed me a considerable thing in your own disposall, w^{ch} you have lately bestowed upon a most deserving and extraordinary Man and my esteemed friend: So that since I am like to fix here, I know nothing can be so convenient for me as to be freed from the scandal of two livings and to exchange one of them for a Pr: of D: where there is so excellent a Library and so good advantages of study, that I hope I might spend one part of my time there for the Public good: But y^r Grace will better judge of these motives then I, and therefore I submit it wholly to your Grace, and begging your pardon that I make this immediate addresse to y^r Grace, whatever be the event of it I shall remain

My Lord

Your Graces most humble

and dutifull son and servant

Tho: Comber.

Stonegrave, Novemb: 19th

1684.

¹ Tanner MSS., xxxii, 177.

104. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.¹4th Dec. 1684

REV. BROTHER,

Upon intelligence of the certainty of Dr Sudbury's death his majesty hath beene pleased to confirm his gracious promise, and hath given mee his hand to kiss, and wished me joy, and ordered the secretary to draw up a warrant upon such account: but it will not be declared in Council till tomorrow evening. Sir George Wheler my nephew, whom the duke, by the means of my Lord Peterborough,² recommended to the bishop, has got the prebendary that is vacant by my promotion. I discern there is no standing for Cambridge men against an Oxford man of Lincoln-College, which gained his point more than his interest, though that is very considerable, or the intercession of his friends, which are not a few, hee being a person of meritt and greate piety. *I named you before him* and used but little zeale for him, knowing that hee was sure enough to carry a prebend hereafter, and might very well stay a while longer, having an estate, and being a very *young priest*, though I should *bee* unjust to him if I styled him a *young man*.

My Lord of Canterbury, and Lord of London, though much your friends, discerning the nail would goe have thought fitt not much to appear for you. Upon this and other considerations I have not been able to doe you any considerable service in this conjuncture, though I dare affirm there is scarce any friend of yours *who loves you more heartily* than, Sir

your affectionate brother
and humble servant
Denis Grenville.

105. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY³April 27th 1685

MY LORD.

The news of the uncertain health and frequent danger of my

¹ *Memoirs*, pp. 200-201.² Charles Mordaunt, third Earl of Peterborough (1658-1735).³ Tanner MSS., xxxi, f. 41.

learned and pious friend Dr Long,¹ made me judge it expedient in his life time to make over my Title to the next turn of Odington, unto one who would freely and might legally present me to it: which your Graces first letter on this subject supposed: for your Grace moved for the B^p of Gloucester “unlesse I saw fit to take it my self”: Now my present circumstances are such as will oblige me to do this for my present Preferments are not above 250^l per An: (and the Residence in our Church is now very inconsiderable as to the profit) But my vast acquaintance both of Gentry and Clergy in both North and South, and my Public capacity in so great a City, compels me to live at very great charge both for my own credit and for the service of the Church, so that I can well demonstrate my income will not defray the necessary expence of My Station and leave me 10^l per An: to buy books, yet my family is encreasing and I ought to take some care of them: Your Grace knows I had much rather have obtained a Preb: of Durham to have made myself easy here, than a Cure at this great distance, but that B^p hath denyed two or three applications on my behalf and declared (as I am told) that I am so engaged in the interests of York that he can never think me fit for his Church: Wherefore having no prospect from thence nor from any other place I know your Grace and my L^d of Gloucester will think it reasonable that my own necessitys be considered before any others convenience, nor can any that wish me well take it amisse that I am served with my own: I have had many other sollicitations, but all Persons do acquiesce in this, and your Grace may be assured that if I could have obliged any friend in the world, I should have don it to that worthy Bishop whom your Grace and my good Lord of London both do recommend to me: And since I am not in a capacity to serve my L: of Gloc: in this case, I am glad to hear that his L^{sp} hath got another living since your Grace did first move for Odington: so that now his L^{sp} doth lesse need it than before: And now that I have related my condition and declared my intention to your Grace, I humbly beg your Graces favour in this affair which tends so evidently to support me and to put me into a Capacity to serve that Church wherein Providence hath placed me:

¹ Dr. Barnabas Long. See Introd., vol I, p. xlv. He died in 1685. Instead of taking the living of Odington himself Comber presented to it his brother-in-law, Thomas Purchas.

for I will take care also that Odington be very well served, and will visit it once a year (if in health) and stay some time there, to which the great Convenience of the Bodley Library and Mr Selden's books at Oxon¹ (within a few miles of this living) will invite me : I shall only beg some assurance that your Grace doth accept this my humble request which hath necessity and many reasons to support it : And I hope your Graces wonted regards for my well-doing will plead my excuse for this my resolution and obtain your kind allowance of it, because I have so fully given your Grace an account of my motives to it as becomes him that is

My Lord

Your Graces most obliged and most
faithfull servant

Tho : Comber.

If your Grace see fit my Lord of London may read this letter or your Grace may make my excuse to him and give him the reasons in discourse.

106. ABEDNEGO SELLER TO T.C.

SIR

In cannot express how welcome your letter was, nor what good it hath done, for which you have both mine and the Ladyes² thanks, who professes herself deeply sensible of the favor. She hath been of late overwhelm'd with an adventitious melancholy (which is not her natural temper, though it seems to be not altogether unsuited to her present condition and circumstances), and by that means, I conjecture, is inclined to passe harder censures of her self and her best actions then formerly she used to do : but this I can assure you that what you wrote hath very considerably administred to her relief, and so far she hath been from deserting the Altar, that she hath some time since every Lords Day received the Blessed Eucharist, and resolves for the future, as often as God shall give her opportunity, so

¹ Selden bequeathed 8,000 volumes to Oxford. They came to the Bodleian Library just before the Restoration. (Mallet, *Hist. Univ., Oxf.*, 1924, II, 222, 224.)

² The lady is almost certainly Lady Martha Cary. She lived in Devonshire and Seller lived in the south of the same county. What he says about her agrees with what she says about herself in her letters.

to doe, notwithstanding her scruples, which, tho' they are not quite baffled, are not so violent and injurious as formerly: and I doubt not but God in his good time will give her those sensible comforts and delights which she so much desires. And to say truth some passages which she hath read in Bishop Taylor's *Worthy Communicant*¹ (and I hope I do not discredit that great and devout Prelate to mention it, for did I, I would ask pardon of his *manes*) have put her into an affright, and given beeing to those unfixed resolutions of flying from God's Table, as if the guilt were lesse not to come there at all, than to come there without a complete repentance, and vowes of amendment that were never broken.

And now, Sir, having found you so ready to comply with my desires, when I turn'd advocate for a third person, suffer me to beg a favor from you for my self, for though the interests of religion be, as they ought, of greatest valew in your eyes, yet I know you are willing to promote the interests of the Commonwealth of learning also. Facund. Hern.² l. IV. c. ult. p. 62. ed Par. 1679, mentions a practice of his time, and of the African Church, as I suppose, which seems to me very rare and peculiar of baptizing some persons, whenever solemn agreements were sealed and sworn to³: *Si nimis terribile creditur, cum ita secum hominis fœdus ineunt in jusjurandum, ut aliquos inter pacta baptizari faciant* &c, and if you have observ'd any custome of the same or like nature in your universal reading, pray communicate it, for Sirmond⁴ in his notes says nothing to it, according to the usual custome of critics, who passe by in silence what they cannot explayn.

¹ Jeremy Taylor (1613-67). Bishop of Down and Connor. *The Worthy Communicant*, 1660.

² Facundus, Bishop of Herniane in the African Province of Byzacena. In 544 Justinian published an edict in which he condemned (1) Theodore of Mopsuestia and his works, (2) the writings of Theodoret in favour of Nestorius, and (3) a letter from Ibas to a Persian named Maris. The decree is generally spoken of as the *Three Chapters*. Facundus in 549 addressed to the Emperor an able defence of the three persons thus condemned in a work in twelve books, *Pro Defensione Trium Capitulorum*. In reply to conciliatory suggestions he also wrote *Liber contra Mocianum Scholasticum* and *Epistolæ Fidei Catholicæ in Defensione Trium Capitulorum*.

³ If such an irreverent custom existed in Africa as is here referred to, it can hardly have been common there and does not appear to have been heard of elsewhere.

⁴ Jacques Sirmond (1559-1651) was one of the greatest scholars of the seventeenth century. He became a Jesuit in 1576. He helped Baronius in the composition of the *Annales* and produced editions of many classical authors.

2. Pray what doth S. Ambrose (li. IX. ep. 70) mean by the *velamen sacerdotale*,¹ which was used in marriage, as well as the Priest's benediction? *Cum ipsum conjugium velamine sacerdotale, et benedictione sanctificari oporteat* &c, which, if I mistake him not, P. Nicol,² I resp ad Bulgar. c III (ca 30. 9. 5. c 3) mentions, when, speaking of what is requisite in marriage, he adds, *Sic demum benedictionem et velamen cœleste suscipiunt*. Virgins, 'tis true, were veiled among the Heathens, which veile was taken off from the Bride by the *Pronuba* on the marriage day (whence the day was called *ἀνακαλυπτῆρια*), but what the Fathers mention implies that then the veile was put on (as the Greek Church puts on a chaplet, whence the office is called *ἀκολουθία τοῦ στεφανώματος*.) It is also true that in the Christian Church the holy virgins on the day of their spiritual marriage to our Blessed Savior were veiled³ (*quæ Christo spiritualiter nubunt, et a Sacerdote velantur*. P. Innoc. ep II ad Victricium c 12)⁴ But that, I suppose, was peculiar to them, and there was reason for it, because the sacred virgin renounc't the world, which in other marriages the woman is involved in. I read in Paulin. Nolan. *de nupt Juliani* something of the same nature, for speaking of the Bishop that married Julian (the great follower of Pelagius) he says,

¹ At the beginning of the *Sanctus* at the nuptial Mass a great veil, usually white, held up at the corners by men, was extended over the bride and bridegroom and remained so spread till after their Communion. The custom which dates back to pre-Christian times, became known in the Christian era as the *velatio nuptialis*. The *Leonian Sacramentary* has three prayers under this title. The custom lasted long past the middle ages. It was strictly reserved for first marriages and was forbidden in the case of widows. It served to legitimate infants born before marriage; they were placed under the veil with their father and mother. (*Liturgia* ed., R. Aigrain, Paris 1930, pp. 746, 747; C. L. Feltoe, *Sacramentarium Leonianum*, 1896. pp. 140-2.)

² Pope Nicholas I (858-67). During his pontificate Bogoris, the newly converted King of Bulgaria, sent his brother to Rome to ask the Pope's advice on matters which perplexed the Bulgarians. A hundred and six questions were submitted, dealing with discipline, ceremonial and morals. The Pope replied in a long Epistle in answer to the questions.

³ The primitive practice was that nuns were veiled and consecrated by the bishop. The veil of probation was white, the veil of consecration was black, sometimes white, and was given by the bishop.

⁴ Innocent I was Pope 402-17. Victricius, Bishop of Rouen 395-415, evangelized the people in the modern Flanders and Hainault. Victricius wrote to Rome for advice on points of discipline. The Pope returned answers to the questions. The 14th was: Women who have promised virginity but have not been "veiled by the priest" if they married, may be reconciled after penance, but the 13th ordered that veiled virgins who marry should not be admitted even to penance before the husband's death.

Ille jugans capita amborum sub pace jugali
Velat eos dextrâ, quos prece sanctificat¹

which certainly is the same with the *benedictio et velamen sacerdotale* in S. Ambrose, and, I believe, means something more than the Bishop's spreading his hands over their heads when he gave the new married couple his blessing, for all the fore-mentioned Fathers difference the rites. If your leasure will permit I doubt not but your learning and your charity will give you leave to answer my desire, and I shall readily embrace any opportunity to testify how much I am, Reverend Sir,

Your most thankful and most affectionate
humble servant
Ab Seller

Cumbentyhead,² Jun: 23. 1685

To the very Reverend Thomas Comber,
DD. Prebendary of Yorke, at his house
near the Minster at Yorke.

107. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

DEAR SIR

Adderbury, Sep. 9, 1685.

In the first place I renew my thanks for your great and many favours to me at York. I am now at Adderbury, where I met your brother Purchas returning from Oddington. I call'd as I came through Oxford on your brother Thornton, and told him I would pay him 15^l by your order for so much to be allow'd at Yorke when my mother pays her rent to you. I had it not at Oxford, else I had paid him then, but before this month be out I shall not fail him. I also told him your desires that he should take Deacon's Orders this season, who told me he intended so to do. I went to the Publick Library to consult Roger Dodsworth's MSS. Collections,³ in one

¹ Julian, Bishop of Eclanum (417-54), was born in 386 and married in early life a lady of rank, named Ia. Paulinus (353-431), Bishop of Nola 409-31, who had some family connection with Julian, wrote their epithalamium (Paulinus, *Carmen*, xxv).

² Combe-in-Teignhead, near Teignmouth. Devon. Seller was rector of this place, as well as of Charles. (See Vol. I, p. lxxv.)

³ Roger Dodsworth (1585-1654) was part author with Dugdale of the *Monasticon Anglicanum*, to which he contributed the larger part of the material. His MSS. collections are in the Bodleian Library (*Yorkshire Arch. Journ.*, xxxii, 5-32). The third Lord Fairfax, the Parliamentary General, gave some 160 of these MSS. to that library.

booke whereof, being an extract of some wills in the Office at Yorke, I transcribed these :—

Tho. Episcopus Dunelm.¹ condit testamentum 1381. Sepult. apud Dunelm ex parte australi in tumulo per se condito.

Joh. de Clifford,² Thesaur. Ebor. condit testamentum 22 Mar. 1392. Sepult in Ecclesiâ Beati Petri Ebor. juxta orientalem finem tumbi Beati Willelmi.³

Tho. Dalby,⁴ Archid. Richm, condit testamentum 16 Mart. 1400. Sepult in Eccl. Cath. Ebor. Legavit ad augendum numerum choristarum pro 5 Choristis, ita quod totus numerus sit duodenarius et quod quilibet eorum 5 habeat pro quolibet die unum denarium

Margaret the wife of S^r John la Zouch⁵ condit Testamentum 6. Oct. 1449. Sepult in Eccles. Southwell. Ad finem thus :—Item I bequeath a box of silver, with hinges, in my chappell, to the Church of Kertlington, that God Almighty in the fourme of bread may ly in, over the High Altar of the same Church.

Tho. Burton,⁶ olim Episcopus Sodorensis Condit testamentum 18 Feb. 1458.

Ric. le. Scrop,⁷ Episcopus Carliol, sepult in Ecclesiâ Carliol, coram summo Altari 1468.

Rob. Bothe,⁸ Decan. Ebor. legavit Corpus sepeliendum in Ecclesiâ

¹ Thomas Hatfield, Bishop of Durham 1345-81.

² John de Clifford, Treasurer of the Minster 1375-92. The Treasurer held one of the chief offices in the Cathedral and generally was a person of good family, but there is no evidence that this John belonged to the great house of Clifford. He died May 29th, 1392, leaving large sums for masses for his soul. *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees Soc.), II, 166-72.

³ St. William, son of Herbert of Winchester, was Archbishop of York 1142-1154. He was canonized in 1227.

⁴ Thomas Dalby, LL.B., Archdeacon of Ely, became Archdeacon of Richmond in 1388. He was also a prebendary of York. He died in 1400 and left 6s. 8d. to each of the houses of mendicant friars there as well as the bequest mentioned in the text.

⁵ Margaret de Burgh, second daughter of Sir John de Burgh (1328-93) married Sir John de la Zouch, and brought him the manors of Bolton-on-Dearne and Wildthorpe, together with lands in Norfolk and Suffolk. After her husband's death she lived chiefly at Kirklington. She died at an advanced age in 1449 and left bequests to the Church of Southwell, desiring to be buried beside her late husband in St. Peter's Chapel there.

⁶ Thomas Burton, a Franciscan, Bishop of Sodor and Man 1455-8.

⁷ Richard le Scrope, Bishop of Carlisle 1464-68.

⁸ Robert Booth, a younger son of Sir Robert Booth, of Barton in Lancashire, was Dean of York 1477-88. He died in 1488. *Test. Ebor.*, IV, 30 and n.

Cath. Ebor, prope sepulcrum M^{ri} Ric. Andrew,¹ predecessoris mei. Testamentum probat. 1488.

W^m Poteman,² Archid. East rid, sepult. in Ecclesiâ Beati Petri Ebor. prope capellam ubi corpus Georgii Nevil,³ Archiepiscopi sepelitur. Testamentum probatur 1493.

Io Dñs Scrop⁴ legat corpus sepeliendum in sepulcro meo per me de novo facto in boreali parti in capellâ S^ci Stephani, vulgariter vocat' Scrope-chappell, infra Ecclesiam Cathedr. Beati Petri Ebor. Testamentum probat. 15 Nov. 1455.

Tho. Pereson,⁵ Subdecanus, Rector de Bolton Percy, legat corpus sepeliendum in navi Ecclesiae, juxta tumbam S^ci Willelmi.

W^m Sheffield,⁶ nuper Decanus immeritissimus, 21 Oct. 1496, legat corpus sepeliendum juxta sepulturam M^{ri}. Ric. Andrews, nuper Decani, cum simili epitaphio et figurâ in lapide ejus sculpt.

Edw. Cressacre,⁷ Subdecan. Ebor. legat corpus sepeliendum in Eccl. Cath. Ebor. juxta tumbam S^ci Willelmi. Test probat. Apr. 3, 1504.

Out of another MS. these :—

On the stone laid for Rob. Bothe, Decan, Ebor. his armes, Argent 3 boars' heads rased, erected, sable; in the fesse point an acorne or.

On the stone for James Holme,⁸ who was unfortunately slain,

¹ Richard Andrew, Secretary to Henry VI, was Dean of York from 1451-2 to 1477. His name is mentioned in Henry's Charter of Incorporation of the Corpus Christi Gild of York 1459-60. *Test. Ebor.*, III, 176-7, 235.

² William Poteman, LL.D., Archdeacon of Cleveland 1470-84. Provost of Beverley 1472. Archbishop Booth's Vicar General 1468. One of the resident canons and an active administrator. The Earl of Northumberland writing to the Civic authorities on 13th January 1486-7 describes him mistakenly as "the Dean of the Church of York, Maister Poteman" (*York Civic Records*, Y.A.S. Record Series, I, p. 178). His will was dated 1493. *Test. Ebor.*, IV, 78 and n.

³ Archbishop George Neville of York, consecrated 1458, to Exeter. Translated to York 1465. Died 1476.

⁴ John, fourth Lord Scrope of Masham, K.G., married (1) a daughter of Lord Fitz-Hugh, (2) Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Chaworth of Wiverton, Notts. He died 15th November 1455. *Test. Ebor.*, II, 187.

⁵ Thomas Pereson. Doctor of Decrees. Commissary for the Archdeaconry of Richmond 1466, and Vicar-General of the Archdeaconry jointly with Poteman 1467. Sub-dean of the Cathedral and Rector of Bolton Percy. He died October 28th 1491 and was buried in the nave. He left 40 shillings for mending the King's highways round York. *Test. Ebor.*, IV, 51 and n.

⁶ William Sheffield. Dean 1494-6. *Test. Ebor.*, IV, 118. Buried 8th December 1497.

⁷ Edward Cressacre. Sub-dean of York. Son of Percival Cressacre of Barnborough. Died 31st March 1504. *Test. Ebor.*, IV, 226 and n.

⁸ The inscription was to the effect that James Holme (?Holmes), gent, was unfortunately murdered July 28th 1597.

his arms, sable, a griffin rampant or : Hic jacet Ricardus Thorpe,¹ quondam canonicus &c, qui obiit 1301. His arms, or, on a pyle B, a griffin rampant argent.

In the Church of St Michael Petergarth,' B, 3 starrs with many rayes or. Christopher Ceel,² Chauntor of the Church, and sometime Clerk of St Peter's worke, at whose devotion this window was glazed 1537.

In Sessay Church this : Here lyeth M^r Thomas Magnus³ Archdeacon of the east-riding of the Metropolitan Church of York, and Parson of this Church, which dyed 28 of Aug. A.D. 1550.

By some of these wills or monuments we may conclude S^t William was buried about the middle of the Church, unlesse the stones laid for these persons have been removed from some other place, which I do not suppose. There are abundance of MSS relating to Antiquities and particularly to Yorkshire, out of which, had I leasure, I might collect for you many things relating to your Cathedrall, but this for the present. My humble service to all my friends in the Minster yard. I am your most obliged

Matt. Hutton

Mr Parsons,⁴ presents his service to you.

To the Reverend

D^r Thomas Comber, Precentor
of York.

¹ Richard Thorpe, Canon of York, died 1301. Torre, who saw the brass, described the tomb as "plated almost all over and carved into tabernacles wherein stands the effigy of the defunct, with an escochon of his arms at head and foot thus: per pale a gryffon segreant." (Segreant is used for a gryphon in heraldry instead of rampant.) "There was a marginal inscription with the symbols of the four evangelists." Torre says this was the tomb of Richard de Thoren, a prebendary who died in 1391. (*Transactions of the Monumental Brass Society*, VII, p. 347.) B stands for azure.

² Christopher Sele, Precentor of the Minster, became a member of the Corpus Christi Gild of York in 1508. He was buried in St. Michael, Petergarth, now called St. Michael-le-Belfry.

³ Thomas Magnus, Archdeacon of the East Riding in 1504, was employed on diplomatic missions 1509-19 and 1524-7. He was also a Paymaster of the forces and Army Treasurer during the wars in the north in 1523. He was Canon of Windsor 1520-49; Prebendary of Lincoln 1522-48; Master (the last) of St. Leonard's Hospital, York; and incumbent of Sessay. He died in 1550. The inscription mentioned in the text is on a brass at Sessay. (See Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson's account of him in *Y.A.J.*, xxxvi, pp. 242-4.)

⁴ Mr. Parsons. See Vol. I, p. liii.

108. FROM DR. HENRY WATKINSON¹

Though there be but arguments of particular consideration yet there is one of more publique and generall concerne, which is the great good his presence and example do in the cuntry, influencing the whole Clergy about him, over whom he hath so carefull an Eye that though he hath not the Title, yet he really and in effect executes the Office of an Archdeacon. The very regard manie have to his gravity and vigilancy Keeping them more within the bounds of their duties, then the tendency of their own inclination would otherwise oblige them, or the Law could enforce them to, and the want of such an one, would be a great losse to that part of our Diocese.

109. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY²

MY LORD

Being obliged this six months in every yeer to reside upon my Cure, I never yet had the opportunity to wait upon our Archbishop since his return, and when I was preparing for a journey to York, I was alarmed with the sad and unexpected News, that he is suddenly seized with a violent fit of Lethargy or Apoplexy, and that his recovery is much doubted,³ at which I am extremely troubled, yet in the midst of my prayers and tears for him, I resolved (before I could at this distance know the certainty) to give your Grace this account: Since (if God should think us unworthy to enjoy longer this excellent and beloved Prelate) your Grace is the most concerned to labour by a speedy and vigorous application to procure the best Man that can be found among the Bishops to succeed him: and since God hath fixed me here, I desire nothing more for my own comfort and for the benefit of the poor Church of England in

¹ This fragment, Tanner MSS., xxxi, f. 44, is evidently part of a testimonial to Comber by the Chancellor of York. As all but one of the Comber letters in the Tanner Collection are directed to Sancroft, the same probably applies to the above. There is no date given, but the Bodleian Library ascribes it to 1685.

² MSS. Tanner, xxx, f. 18.

³ Archbishop Dolben died the following day, 11th April 1686.

generall and of this Diocesse in particular, then that we may have a Religious and Prudent Head placed over us, and one who will carry on those excellent designs which this great and good Man with as much prudence as piety hath begun: The Bps are better known to your Grace then to me, and so I need name none, and if your Grace can have the Priviledge to advise in the Choice, I doubt not it will be highly to all our satisfactions, and therefore I give this timely notice, and will give a further account when I know the certainty. Because I fear least any ill Men should watch this opportunity to impose one upon us in this juncture, who may be unfit for so great a Charge: My Lds of Lond: Ely or Chich:¹ or one of the like Character may be a great stay to us in these unsteady times, and because I know your Grace will aym at such an one. I heartily pray for a blessing on y^r endeavours, and hope y^r Grace will pardon this presumption which my zeal for the Churches good may excuse in

My Lord

Your Graces very faithfull and
dutifull servant and son

Tho: Comber

April 10th 1686.

A line directed to me at my house in York will find me.

110. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

London. May. 12. 1686.

SIR

I received yours on Friday night, and the next day I went to M^r Clavell and according to your order gave him the title you design'd for your pious and learned treatise² and also inserted the passage you desir'd in the place you appointed, thus nay sometimes the Church seem'd to comply further even to appoint publick prayers for the succeſſe of Duells as appears in the instance of Hën. Duke of Lancaster anno 1352 who having been inform'd of some reproachfull words spoken against him by the Duke of Brunswick resolved to saile over into France and fight him but before he committed his innocence to the tryal of the sword, he desired the Bishops of

¹ Compton of London, Turner of Ely, Lake of Chichester.

² *The Discourse on Duels.*

England to assist him with their prayers and to recommend him and his cause to the mercy of God. And accordingly I find that Rad de Salopia Bishop of Bath and Welles¹ did injoyne all the Clergy of his diocese to exhort the people in their severall cures every Sunday and Holyday with all humility and devotion to beg of God who is the giver of victory that he would appear for the honour of his holy name, and the clearing the truth of the noble Duke and the glory of the English nation, by giving success to his armes. See registr Rad. de. Salop. fol 413. I have not time to stay in town now setting forward towards Aynho on Munday next having taken coach where I shall stay till after Easter. I shall be glad to meet you in Yorkshire for I believe I shall [see?] you in . . .

yours

MH²

I did present your service to the Bishop of B.W.³ [and asked] his advice concerning the epistle dedicatory but he would not ad . . . himselfe.

III. MRS. ELIZABETH NEALE⁴ TO T.C.

REV. SIR.

You may possibly be surprized to see a letter from a person whom you know not, and whom not so much as a favourable or lucky chance has ever given occasion to speak to you. I do not indeed know how this may be resented, but that pious and charitable zeal which is visible in the great pains you have taken to instruct and confirm the professors of our most excellent religion, makes me

¹ The Bishop was Radulf of Salopia, Ralph of Shrewsbury, Bishop of Bath and Wells 1329-1362. Henry of Grosmont, Earl of Derby, was created Duke of Lancaster March 1351 and died 1361. Otto Tarentinus became Duke of Brunswick-Grubenhagen in 1351. He was the fourth and last husband of Queen Joan of Naples of the House of Anjou. At the wedding in 1376 he became Prince of Tarentum (hence his name Tarentinus) and Count of Acerra. The fight was arranged to take place in Paris on 4th September 1352, but John, King of France, made peace between them when they were actually in the lists (Froissart, *Chron.*, c. CLIV). Duke Otto died about the beginning of 1399 and was buried at Foggia.

² Matthew Hutton had been Fellow of Brasenose and at Oxford was a friend of Anthony à Wood. There are frequent references to him in Wood's *Life and Times*. He had a wide circle of friends among the scholars of the day.

³ Thomas Ken, New College, Oxford. M.A. 1664; D.D. 1679; Bishop of Bath and Wells 1684-91. He was one of the "Seven Bishops," was deprived as a Non-juror in 1691 and is well known as a hymn-writer.

⁴ The biographer calls her a Mrs. Neale. *Memoirs*, pp. 216-219.

hope favourably: and upon that account, sir, I shall make bold to acquaint you with my desire.

Being importuned by some friends to come to this town with some children, whom Almighty God hath been pleased to deprive both of father and mother, and the care of their education being for some time *remitted* to me, the sense I have of my own inability, makes me think myself obliged, both upon that account, and likewise in point of affection, as they are my relations, to get the best advice and assistance I can for them. It would be impertinent in me to begin a discourse to you of the necessity there is of cultivating such young plants, nor need I say (if I could) how much the adorning of *that nobler part which will live for ever*, is to be preferred before the exterior accomplishments of the body, however advantageous and agreeable soever. Almighty God (may he grant them thankful hearts for his bounty) hath been pleased to give them *a sufficient competency*, and thereby enabled them to purchase one, in a good measure, and I doubt not but his spirit, and the directions of those upon whom it is in a more peculiar and plentiful manner effused, will effect the other, when due endeavour is used.

I should desire of you no more, sir, than that you would be pleased to direct me in the choice of some books for them, their intellects for their years, together with a tractable temper common to them all, giving tolerable hopes of improvement, but that I believe it might be of great advantage to them if they were brought acquainted with some of those venerable persons who are appointed the guides of souls, and whom we are taught to reverence both for their virtue and office sake: a word from such a person will make more impression than the repeated instruction of other persons, whose arguments, as they are many degrees short of *their weight & authority*, so seldom prevail so far as to gain a belief so firm as to secure the affections: whereas the words (may I not say) of the preacher, by the blessing of God are as *goods and nails fastened by the masters of the assembly*.¹ So that I should think it a great happiness, if, at some spare minutes, you would permit them to wait on you, and that you would vouchsafe to catechize them. Indeed I can speak from experience, that I received more satisfaction in hearing some short discourses, made by some of the London divines

¹ Eccles, xii, 11.

while I was there, upon the catechism, than by a great many sermons though excellent ones, and I have often wished them the like advantage, and hope I shall be so fortunate as to obtain it from you. The only debate I have had has been about giving you this trouble, but since it is only in pursuance of your worthy employment, which, as it is your business, so doubtless is it your delight, and directly tending to the honour and glory of your great master, I have ventured on it: for as I think with myself that I should not fail to consult the physician for them, did I apprehend the least danger to their bodies, so I ought to omit nothing which may be conducive to the securing of the jewels of which those are only the cases.

And now, sir, if you do but receive this with your wonted candour (*for I am no stranger to your character though I am to yourself*) it will be great satisfaction to, Reverend Sir

Your most humble,
(and, as I am a sharer in your
public benefits)
grateful, and obedient servant

Elizabeth Neale.

July 16th.
1686.

112. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

SIR,

I have bought severall bookes for your library, your selfe, and your freind. I hope you will like the prizes. Some in the Auction, and some out of it, for generally they bid so high I was asham'd to buy those bookes you desir'd

Bibliotheca Polonorum, 8 vol. ¹	5 . 0 . 0
Grotius, opera omnia, 4 vol. ²	3 . 10 . 0
Stephanus de Urbibus. Amstel ³	12 . 0
Forbesius, Instructiones Gener. ⁴	15 . 0

¹ *Bibliotheca Fratrum Polonorum*. Tom. 1-viii, Irenopoli, 1656.

² Hugo Grotius, 1583-1695. The Dutch jurist. *De Jure Belli et Pacis* 1625, was one of the great books of the world and the book by which he is best known. His *De Veritate Religionis Christianae* was his most important theological work.

³ Stephanus Byzantinus. *De Urbibus* originally published in Greek at Florence in 1528. There was an edition published at Basle in 1568 and another at Amsterdam in 1678.

⁴ Joannes Forbesius (John Forbes of Corse). *Instructiones Historico-Theologicae de Doctrina Christiana*. Amsterdam 1645.

Vitae selectorum virorum, per Bates ¹	7.0
Outram de sacrificiis ²	3.0
Ignatius epistles, per Vossium ³	3.0
Newman's Concordance ⁴	15.0
Camden's Britannia ⁵	2.4.0
Suicerus, Thesaurus, in 2 vol. fol. ⁶	1.7.0
Epistolae illustrium virorum Amstel ⁷	14.0
Eadmerus. ⁸	8.0
Justellus, Concilia, 3 vols. 8 ^o ⁹	12.0
Richerius, Concilia. 3 vols. ¹⁰	12.0
I have bought Thuanus' works, ¹¹ written) by himselfe, without the continuation, for }	2.10.0
<hr/>	
£19.12.0	

But if you do not like it for your library, it being so cheap you may find some would have it at that rate, if not, I'll allow for it and keep it myselfe.

For your selfe I have bought
Capellus Vindication of Casaubon.¹

I.4

¹ *Vitae Selectorum Virorum* qui Doctrina, Dignitate, aut Pietate Inclaruere. Printed for G. Walls at the Sun in St. Paul's Churchyard 1681.

² *De Sacrificiis Libri Duo*: quorum Altero explicantur omnia Judaeorum, nonnulla Gentium Profanorum Sacrificia, altero Sacrificium Christi. Autore Gulielmo Outramo S.T.P. Ecclesiae S Petri apud Westmonasteriensis Canonico. London 1677.

³ *Epistolae Genuinae S. Ignatii Martyris*: ed. by Isaac Voss. Amsterdam 1646. An edition containing six of the epistles.

⁴ Samuel Newman. *A Large and Complete Concordance to the Bible in English*. 1650.

⁵ William Camden. *Britannia* 1586. Sixth edition 1607. English Translation 1610.

⁶ Johannes Casparus Suicerus. *Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus et Patribus Graecis* opus novum. Two vols., folio. Amsterdam 1682.

⁷ *Epistolae variae Regum ac Principum aliorumque virorum illustrium*. Martene, *Anecd.* Vols. I, II.

⁸ Eadmer. *Historia Novorum*. Libri sex, cum notis Seldeni. London 1623, fol.

⁹ Christopherus Justellus. *Bibliotheca juris Canonici Veteris*. 2 vols. Paris 1661. *Codex canonum ecclesiae Africanae*. Paris 1610.

¹⁰ Edmundus Richerius. *Historia Conciliorum generalium*. Colonia 1683.

¹¹ Thuanus. Jacques Auguste de Thou. (1553-1617). President of the Parliament of Paris 1588. *Historia sui Temporis* in 138 books. 1604-20. In five volumes complete 1620-21.

¹² Jacobus Capellus wrote *Vindiciae Pro Isaaco Casaubono*, continentes examen praecipuarum controversiarum quas adversus Casaubonum moverunt Heribertus Ros-Weydus, Andreas Eudaemon Joannis, Jul. Caes. Bulengerus. Frankfort 1619.

Hottinger <i>Histor. Novi Test.</i> 5 vols. ¹	12.9
Salmasius <i>de regionibus suburb.</i> ²	6.6
Liutprandus <i>de vitis Pontificum</i> ³	9.0
Ludolphus. <i>Histor. Æthiopica</i> . ⁴	12.0
Witten, <i>Memoria Theologorum</i> ⁵	4.0

£2.5.7

For your freind I have bought :

Aristophanes, fol. cum scholiis	1.0.0
Catullus &c cum notis Posseratii. ⁶	13.0
Plynies' Epistles et Paneg. cum notis Catanei ⁷	3.0
Thesaurus Gr. Oxon ⁸	4.0
Respub Belg. ⁹	1.4
Romana, Germanica et Danica. ¹⁰	1.11
Scot. et Hibern. ¹¹	1.4
Gallia ¹²	1.3
Turcia ¹³	1.4
I can buy Steph. Thesaur. Graec ¹⁴ without the Glossary for 2.10.0	

¹ John Mauricius Hottinger was an eminent Oriental scholar, born at Zürich 1620. Professor of Scriptural Theology at Zürich and later of Oriental Languages at Heidelberg. He wrote *Historia Ecclesiastica Novi Testamenti*, six vols. Zürich 1651-67. Died 1667.

² Claude Saumaise, born at Semur (Burgundy) 1593 or 1594. Died 1653. One of the most learned scholars in Europe. Professor at Leyden 1631. Chiefly known in England by his *Defensio Regia*, to which Milton replied. *De Suburbicariis Regionibus* was published at Frankfort in 1618.

³ Liutprandus (922-72). Chronicler and Bishop of Cremona. His *Antipodosis* covers the period 887-949. *Historia Ottonis* 960-64, a valuable work. He also wrote *Relatio de Legatione Constantinopolitana*. The *De Vitis Pontificum* published in 1620 is a supposititious work. (*Brit. Mus. Catalogue*.)

⁴ Job Ludolphus (Hiob Leutholf), 1624-1704, was born at Erfurt and died at Frankfort-on-Main. He was in the service of the Duke of Saxe-Gotha. His *Historia Aethiopica* was published in 1681.

⁵ Henningus Witten. *Memoriae Theologorum*. Frankfort 1674-5.

⁶ *Catullus cum Jo. Posseratii commentariis*. Folio. Paris 1608.

⁷ Pliny the Younger. 62-114 A.D. *Epistolaria, libri decem, cum commentariis, Jo. Mariae Catanaci*. Geneva 1625.

⁸ *Greek Thesaurus*. Oxon. Enquiries at the Oxford Press fail to identify this work.

⁹ *Belgii Confederati Respublica*. Lugd-Batav 1630, sm. 8vo.

¹⁰ *Respublica et Status Imperii Romano-Germanici*. Lugd-Batav 1634, sm. 8vo.

¹¹ *Respublica sive Status Regni Scotiae et Hiberniae*. Lugd-Batav 1627, sm. 8vo.

¹² *Gallia*—one of the same series as 10, 11, 12, 14, but I have been unable to discover a copy.

¹³ *Turcici Imperii Status*. Lugd-Batav 1634, sm. 8vo.

¹⁴ Henri Estienne. *Thesaurus Graecae Linguae*, 8 vols. Geneva 1572.

It is well worth the money and one may sometime buy
the Glossary by it selfe.

I have bought H Steph. Traged. select.¹

1.6

Ælian's Histor.²

6

£4. 19. 2

If some of them be dearer than I intended, others I'me sure are cheaper than I expected. These come in all to £26. 16. 9.

I intend to go down to Welles as soon as I receive a bill from you to pay for these, or as many as you please, which I hope will be speedily; and I shall deliver them to M^r Clavell to be convey'd to you. I could upon occasion light upon severall bookes you want, which will well pay for their carriage. The Bishop of Sarum³ is like to die. R. L. Str⁴ is very sick. 'Tis said Tircon⁵ will certainly not go again into Ireland. The English Popish Lords disgust him. I could tell more, but it may be you hear it by others. Your freind D^r Hickes bid for most of your bookes at great rates by an unlimited commission he gave to his Correspondent. I pray present my service to my Cos Worseley, and I thank him for his letter, and will write to him speedily and beg his pardon for deferring thus long. I am

yours

MH

I can buy Casalius ^{de} Ritibus Christianis⁶ of a later edition for

¹ Henri Estienne. *Tragoedia Selecta*. Eight Selected Tragedies of Sophocles, Aeschylus and Euripides, 1566-7.

² Claudius Aelianus, end of the second century A.D. *Variae Historiae*, in Greek, fourteen books.

³ Seth Ward (1617-89). M.A. Sidney Sussex College; Fellow 1640-4; Savilian Prof. of Astronomy, Oxford, 1649-61; Principal, Jesus College, Oxford, but ejected by Cromwell 1657; President of Trinity College, Oxford, 1660; Prebendary 1660. Dean 1661 and Bishop 1662-7 of Exeter. Bishop of Salisbury 1667; Chancellor of the Garter 1671.

⁴ Roger L'Estrange 1616-1704. Tory journalist and writer: Surveyor of the Press and Licenser 1663. Wrote many political pamphlets. His most important journal was *The Observer* 1681-7; M.P. for Winchester 1685; knighted 1685.

⁵ Richard Talbot, 1630-91, a Cavalier who fought in the Civil Wars; later the spokesman of the Irish Roman Catholics; Earl of Tyrconnel 1685; Viceroy of Ireland 1687. At the Revolution he went to France, where he had the Confidence of James II and Louis XIV. Returned to Ireland as Commander-in-Chief for James in 1691, but died before the year was out.

⁶ J. Bapt. Casalius. *De Ritibus Aegyptiorum, Romanorum, Christianorum*. Rome 1664-5.

about 12^s or 13^s. If you like it, let me know. Philopater¹ was forbid to be sold.

London. Nov. 9. 1686

For the Reverend D^r Comber

Precentor of Yorke

113. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

SIR

Your letter was doubly wellcome to me that gave me an account of the little heir which that my dear Cosen may be happy in, I desire he would not set his heart upon him. I know you'l think I am not fit to give counsell to a father till my selfe be one, but I think I'me the more fit to talke like a Philosopher, but I pray present my most hearty congratulations to them both. I according to your order presented your service to my Lord of Bath and Wells, who in his next return'd me these words: D^r Comber I know by his writings, but never saw him unlesse once and that transiently, and I receive commendations from so very good and learned a person, much the more kindly in regard he presents me with his friendship, which I shall value very highly; and I intreat you to returne him my hearty acknowledgments and respects, he is one of those who will stand in the gap, I beseech God to preserve and support him. I go to Welles in 2 or 3 dayes and your next you may direct to me there. I have to the former bookes added since X Scriptor² . . . 2. 10. 0 which is cheaper by ten shillings than M^r . . . would sell it and as cheap as anywhere else in toun, for 'tis not to be had.

Justell: Concilia. 2 vol. fol. 1. 8. 0 this is the best edition and the 3 little ones I mentioned at 12^d I will keep for my selfe.

Theocritus greek 3^s

Cosen.³ Canon of Scripture 4^s

Busbequis⁴ 9^d

¹ Robert Parsons the Jesuit wrote *Elizabethae Angliae Reginae haeresim Calvinianam propugnantis saevissimum in Catholicos sui regni Edictum*. . . per D. Andreas Philopatrum, 1592.

² *Historiae Anglicanae Scriptorum X*. Ed. Roger Twysden. London 1652.

³ John Cosin (1594-1672). Bishop of Durham 1660-72. *Scholastical History of the Canon of Holy Scripture* 1657. 2nd ed. 1672.

⁴ Busbequius, Augier Ghislen de Busbecq 1522-92. Flemish diplomat. *Discourse of the State of the Ottoman Empire. Turcicae Epistolae Quatuor*, Paris, 1589, 1595. Reprinted at Oxford 1660.

In my next I may procure one or two more you wrote for.

I was last Saturday to see the ceremony of the degradation of Mr Johnson¹ in the Chapter house at St Pauls, he behaved himself most say very well, but first excepted against their jurisdiction saying that the Bishop of London was his Ordinary, and according to the Canon he was to be try'd by him. the Bishop told him, they proceeded against him according to the Canon, the Bishop of London being suspended, he answered that then the Archbishop of Canterbury was his ordinary and Metropolitan, but they would not allow anything against their authority, which they were fully satisfy'd of, the Bishop of Durham spoke all, excepting one word or two. he told him, they pronounced against him in order to the execution of the sentence pronounced against him by the King's bench. Johnson answered, he hoped they would try the cause themselves and not be only the echo to the other Court, and only say Amen to what they said or did, and that they might very well believe all sentences given in that Court have not been found to have been alwaies just, when they have been afterwards removed to another court. he told them also their Lordships might consider that preaching against Popery or many sorts of speeches might by inuendos and interpretations be made sedition and treason; and that what he had written was the opinion of all the Bishops of England in Queen Elizabeths days. The Bishop of Rochester² reply'd to that, that that was the most malicious thing he could say of the Church of England, to whom Johnson reply'd, but tis true my Lord. Johnson told them the sentence against him, viz, the whipping was the punishment of a dog and not of a man and that he had rather have been hangd at Westminster, and that his Orders and gown were dearer to him than his life. After sentence past the Bishop of Durham ordered the officer

¹ Samuel Johnson (1649-1703). Rector of Corringham, Essex, 1670; Chaplain to Lord William Russell; sometimes called "Julian" Johnson because of his book *Julian the Apostate*. He was tried at the King's Bench 16th November 1686 for publishing scandalous and seditious papers intended to stir up disaffection in the army and navy. He was sentenced to the pillory, to a fine of five hundred marks, and to be whipped from Newgate to Tyburn. Before the execution of the last part of the sentence he had to be degraded from Holy Orders. This was done by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who then handed him over to the secular arm.

² Thomas Sprat (1635-1713). Wadham, Oxford. M.A. 1657, D.D. 1669. Wrote a *History of the Royal Society*, of which he was one of the first members. Dean of Westminster 1683, Bishop of Rochester 1684. Read Declaration of Indulgence to empty seats in Westminster. Assisted at the Coronation of William and Mary.

to deliver a bible into M^r Johnsons hand, which having done, he was commanded to take it from him, after that a square cap was set upon his head, and the officer ordered to take it off, then the officer tooke off his gown, and after that he tooke off his girdle; and when he was about to take off his Cassock too, the Bishop said, it was enough, he might leave him that, after all, the Bishop told him he delivered him over to the secular power as a mere laick. Johnson protested against the gravity and nullity of the sentence and appeal'd to the Kings delegates in Chancery, and was then carried back to Newgate and yesterday stood in the pillory at Westminster in his Cassock but preach'd to the people through the wood. there were eight divines that were assessors to the Bishops and sign'd with them the sentence. The Dean of Windsor,¹ D^r Holder,² D^r Grove,³ D^r Scot,⁴ D^r Sherlock, D^r Cave, D^r Bridge⁵ and D^r Dove.⁶

This day the Parliament met in a great number and were prorogued, tis confidently now reported that the French King is dead, since 3 mailes are wanting. next post will confirme something

I have receiv'd 10^l of M^r Clavell in part of which I have laid out for you. I want roome but not heart to subscribe myselfe

Sir

your most obliged freind
and humble servant

M.H

London. Nov. 23. 1686.

The Paris edition of Du Fresne⁷ cannot be had here under 3. 10. 0

¹ Gregory Hascard, D.D., installed 29th September 1684. Died 15th November 1708.

² William Holder (1616-98). M.A. and Fellow, Pembroke College, Cambridge; Rector of Bletchington and Northwold; Canon of St. Paul's; Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal 1674-89; Rector of Therfield, Herts, 1687; wrote treatises on harmony and on the Julian Calendar.

³ Robert Grove (1634-96). St. John's, Cambridge. Fellow 1658, M.A. 1660, D.D. 1681; Rector of St. Andrew, Undershaft, 1670; Canon of St. Paul's 1679; Bishop of Chichester 1691-6.

⁴ John Scott (1639-95). New Inn Hall, Oxford. D.D.; held livings in London; Canon of St. Paul's 1685-95.

⁵ Francis Bridge. Trinity College, Cambridge. Scholar 1657, B.A. 1659, M.A. 1666, Fellow 1661, D.D. 1682; Vicar of St. Michael's, Cambridge, 1673; Rector of St. Mildred's, Bread Street, 1684-8. Died 1688.

⁶ Henry Dove (1640-95). Trinity College, Cambridge. M.A. 1665, D.D. 1677; Archdeacon of Richmond 1678; Chaplain to Charles II, James II and William III.

⁷ *Glossarium Mediae et Infimae Latinitatis*, per C. Du Fresne, Seigneur du Cange. Paris 1678. Lyons 1688.

therefore M^r Lamberts is cheap, but I have heard some say they have bought it for 3^l

For the Revnd D^r Comber

Precentor of

Yorke

114. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

London. Nov. 30. 1686.

SIR.

The last Saturday I sent your bookes to M^r Clavell who sent them by the carrier yesterday, to the bookes I sent you the prices of in my last I have added

Decem Scriptores	2.10.0
Cosen's Canon of Scripture	0.4.0
Justelli Canones 2 vol. fol.	1.7.0
Philopater adv. Edict regin. Elizab	0.3.6
Theocritus gr.	0.3.0
Busbequii epist	0.0.9
	<hr/> 4.8.3

which added to the former summes I sent you viz of 14.19.1 and 4.14.8. in toto

19.13.9

makes up the summe of 24.2.0

out of which summe I deduct 12^s for the little Justell. Canon. in 3 vols 8^o which I will get exchanged or keep my selfe, so there remains due to me for the bookes bought 23.10.0

for porter 0.1.0

I have also subscribed your name to the printing of

Bishop Ussher primordia and de successione¹

for which I am to lay down 6^s 0.6.0

23.17.0

¹ There is no book of Ussher's with this title. The *Primordia* may mean *Britannicarum Ecclesiarum Antiquitates*. 1639. Reprinted 1677. The other book may be *De Christianarum Ecclesiarum Successione et Statu Historica Explicatis*. 1613 and 1678. But neither seem to have been republished in or about 1686. Ussher's *Historia Dogmatica de Scripturis*, ed. by H. Wharton, was published in 1690.

I did receive 24^l of M^r Clavell on your account for monyes laid out before I had cast up the summe, and I now find it 3^s more than I laid out, so much I will return him back for your use.

I am not yet gon to Welles being staid here by reason all coaches thither are taken up till Monday next, for which day I have entred my name and paid earnest. I hope you receiv'd my last with my Lords commendations to you. I am most heartily sorry for the misfortune of a person of Quality whome we both know, which is the talk of the towne this weeke. my humble service to my Cosen Worsley, and the Lady in the straw, with the rest of my Cosens. M^r Johnson is to be whipped tomorrow, no intercession will prevaile, tis said the Lady Russell offered 300^l to get it off.

If you have anything thence which you know will oblige your freind, I hope you will do so much for

Sir

your most obliged freind
and humble servant

MH.

To the Reverend
D^r Thomas Comber
Precentor of
Yorke.

115. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

DEAR SIR.

I had been at Welles before this time but the coaches were all taken up for ten days together, twas but the same fortune I had at Yorke, which gave me the longer injoyment of your good company. I have sent you a booke or two which I thought you had not, to make up the summe, they are hard to be got.

I sent among the last bookes 4 musick bookes ty'd up in brown paper which I desire you to send to M^r Nicholson¹ to use till I send

¹ William Nicholson the antiquary, usually spelt Nicolson. He was one of the well-known group of antiquarian scholars of whom Hutton was another. Ralph Thoresby frequently refers to him. See p. 125, n.

for them. Yesterday news came that the K of fr :¹ is certainly dead or very ill, none being permitted to come at him but the Doctors, not so much as the Dauphin. I am glad to hear M^r Colvill² succeeds in D^r Stones place, we hear that D^r Jane³ is to be Dean of Ch. Ch. Oxon and not Massy.⁴ I am heartily glad of it. M^r Johnson was whipt on Wednesday but civilly used by the new hangman Jack Ketch⁵ being buried 2 days before. I take coach on Munday, Sir your prayers are desired by him whose service is devoted to you

Your most obliged freind and servant

M:H :

London

Dec. 4. 1686.

116. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY⁶

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE

Having preached two sermons about Duells, upon some occasion given by the Quarrelling of the Military men, I was persuaded by some friends to publish them. But I know they who most need the advice generally despise Sermons and therefore I left out the text and put them into a Discourse : which if your Grace will honour me so far as to peruse, and afterward think it may do good, your Chaplain may Licence it, there being nothing in it which touches the tender points, and indeed I chose the subject partly to

¹ Narcissus Luttrell noted in March of this year that the King of France was very ill and suffered from a fistula. In April he had heard that the King had pretty well recovered. In December he said that the King had been very ill, had been operated upon and it was said that he could not recover. In January 1687, however, he reported that the King had recovered and that services of thanksgiving had been held in the churches.

² Dr. John Covell, or Colvill, traveller, botanist and student of the Greek Church, became Chancellor of York in 1687 and Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, in the following year.

³ William Jane (1645-1707). Christ Church, Oxford. M.A. 1667; D.D. 1674; Canon 1669; Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford, 1680-1707; Dean of Gloucester 1685. He did not become Dean of Christ Church.

⁴ John Massey (1651-1715). M.A. Magdalen Hall, Oxford; became a Roman Catholic in 1685; was made Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, in 1686. He retired to France in 1688 and died in Paris 1715.

⁵ The public hangman whose name became proverbial. He had been dismissed from his office in January 1686 for insolence to the Sheriffs of London.

⁶ MSS. Tanner, xxx, f. 176.

avoid the snares that I have been told are layd for me. God Almighty preserve this poor Church and keep all its sons firm and steady in its excellent Principles, and give us all such grace that our Practice may be answerable to them: May your Grace be protected and guided in this juncture, and long continued for the encouragement of learning and true piety, w^{ch} is the hourly Prayer of

My Lord

Your Graces' most dutifull Son

Tho: Comber.

York: Jan 15th, 1686.

117. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

London, Mar: 5. 1686

SIR

I am just come to toun, and the first thing was to see M^r Clavell to inquire of your health. He told me he had receiv'd lately some papers from you in order for the presse, concerning duells, which I remember I saw you imploy'd in while I was with you at Yorke. While I was at Wells I had the opportunity of perusing the Registers, where I met with a great many of my old acquaintance the prebends of your Church in Archbishop Bowet's¹ time, and others that were preferred in the Church of Wells, which collections the next time I see you you shall peruse if they will serve you. I met with one story of the Duell between the Duke of Lancaster and the Duke of Brunswick, ann: 1352, the contents whereof are these:

Henricus dux Lancastriae contra Ducem of Brunesywyk (qui de eo quaedam malitiose consererat) militari certamine per duellum causae suae justitiam in facie sui adversarii per argumenta ferrea viriliter ostensurus Parisiis intendit se personaliter conferre 4 Dec: et petit Praelatos Angliae ut per cleri et populi Anglicani devotas orationes ipse et causa sua Dei misericordiae commendantur, et Dominus Episcopus Bathon et Wellen, mittit Decano et Archidiaconis in diocesi sua, injungens ut in singulis Ecclesiis suae jurisdictionis negotium dicti Domini diebus Dominicis et festis intra

¹ Henry Bowet. Bishop of Bath and Wells 1401; Treasurer 1402; Archbishop York 1407. Died 1423.

missarum solennia in vulgari exponi faciat [ad] clerum et populum, eosdem exhortans ut in spiritu humilitatis et integrae devotionis affectu Deo Omnipotenti qui cornua conterit superborum et humiles spiritu extollit, preces et alia exerceant opera pietatis, ut Rege regum cum suo principi misericorditer dispensante nobilis Dominus antedictus in honorem Divini Nominis, veritatis, suaeque justitiae declarationem et totius nationis Anglicanae exaltationem de praefato adversario suo victoriae gloriam obtineat et triumphum. The Bishop's letter is dated 9 Kal. Novemb. 1352 Fol. 413, Registrum Radulphi de Salopiâ.

I am going down next week to M^r Parsons,¹ where I shall stay till the week after Easter. I thinke to come downe into Yorkshire soon after, but I hear you intend to be here in town in May. I dare not write news. My service to my cosen Worseleys,² and your good lady, and other of my freinds you see. I am, Sir,

yours,

M.H.

On Thursday last, Sir John Bolles,³ a Baronet that had the most excellent hand on the basse violl (one of D^r Nicholson's acquaintance), dyed here. Quantus artifex pereio.⁴

118. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.

Stockton April the 30th 87

REVEREND AND WORTHY SIR

I cannot let slip one Post without acknowledging your kindnesse of a speedy Answer and letting you know that you may freely command a place in my Coach, (if nothing hinders my intended Journey) from Marre (where I intend to leave my Wife) to London, and if you will but lend a Pillion and furniture for a

¹ Robert Parsons was at this time Rector of Waddesdon, Bucks.

² Of Hovingham Hall.

³ Sir John Boles, or Bowles, succeeded to the baronetcy granted originally on June 24th 1638 to John Boles of Scampton, Lincolnshire. He married the daughter of "one Burton, a broom man" who became very rich and was Sheriff of Surrey in 1673. Evelyn describes her as "a jolly friendly woman." Evelyn, *Diary*., 5th December 1683. Evelyn attended the wedding of another daughter.

⁴ The dying words of the Emperor Nero on June 9th 68. The usual reading is *Qualis artifex pereo!*

woman so far, that is 27 miles Ile turn out one of my Wife's maids, and let her ride double so farre.

I shall likewise very willingly preach for M^r Dean on Whitsunday if hee shall command mee, and that it may doe him real service: tho I would much rather bee, either his or your Auditor: but all this on condition, I hold my intended Resolution and that God shall enable me to reach York by Whitsunday. For tho I hope, and verily believe, I shall keep my Time, having a very earnest desire to communicate with you at the ensuing great Festival, yet nobody ought absolutely to depend on one at such distance, in my circumstances who am often necessitated to break my measure for the sake of some Brethren, with whom I cannot yet prevail to bear an equal Burthen of Duty. And besides I have met with an obstruction, since I writ to you, which may cause me to postpone my journey towards York and London, but if so, you shall speedily hear more thereof.

I am now at Stockton endeavouring to remove the obstacle (it is a money concerne) and if I succeed whereof I shall likewise give you on Account you may depend on me. The consideration of your going to London at the same time and kyndly offering me your company in my owne Coach (which is mighty gratefull to me if you are alone for I have but one place to spare) will make me break through all Difficulties: For I have a great many things to say to you fit to be communicated to a Christian friend. I have no other vertue yet to brag of than a little honest Zeale for the publick, which I hope I shall ever preferre before my private Interest. Your friendly Counsell and assistance (which I have ever valued) will be the greatest kindnesse which you can confer on

Your affectionate Brother

Faithfull Friend

and humble Servant

Denis Granville

The place which I mentioned in my Letter called Marre is my Brother Bernard Granville's house within two¹ miles of Doncaster. I am very well satisfied that you cannot accommodate me and my wife with Lodgings your house being full, but if you will procure some private Lodgings, because I intend to stay four or five days, it

¹ Four miles if Marr Hall is understood.

will be very convenient to my wife who dos not love noise. A bed for ourselves, another for my wifes woman and maid and a third for a servant that waits on me will be sufficient. The rest may lodge with the horses at the George¹ which I think a very comodious Inne.

For
The Rev^d D^r Comber
Precentor of
York.

119. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

London. Sep. 3. 1687

DEAR SIR

I returne you many thanks for all your kindnesses at Yorke, and for your good prayers to which among the rest of my friends I ascrib'd my prosperous journey. I waited upon your brother, whome I found at the Post-office. I was severall times at M^r Clavell's to wait on my Lord of Peterborow. I went one day to the Herald's Office, where I was very kindly treated by S^r Henry St George,² who search'd severall bookes in the Office for some armes in your Minster we could not find out. I wrote out these few relating to your Cathedrall: *John Pakenham*,³ Treasurer, Quarterly, in the first a crescent, quartring three cloves (I think), *Martin Collins*⁴ on whose monument is, on a bend 3 martlets, *Cawode*,⁵ on a fess within a border 3 cross-crosslets fitché. *Green-*

¹ The George Inn in Coney St., York, said to stand on the site of the ancient Guild of St. George, was rebuilt at the end of the seventeenth century. It had a fine banqueting room, and a vaulted gateway led into a quadrangle with galleries around it. It was pulled down about 1868.

² Sir Henry St. George (1625-1715) the younger, son of Sir Henry St. George, Garter King-at-Arms, who died in 1644. The younger became Garter King-at-Arms in 1703.

³ This was a brass to John Pakenham, Treasurer of York Minster, who died in 1477. Torre says there was a shield, an inscription and the symbols of the Evangelists. The arms of Pakenham at Hartley Westpall are: Quarterly *or* and *gules*: in the first quarter an eagle displayed. If the brass was in bad condition perhaps the head and bend of the two wings *might* explain the "cloves." The crescent was for difference. (*Transactions of the Monumental Brass Society*, vii, 347, viii, 6.)

⁴ Martin Collins was Treasurer and canon-residentiary. He was also commissary and afterwards official to the Archbishop. He died in 1508 (*ibid.*, vii, 347; *Test. Ebor.*, iv, 277).

⁵ This was a brass, erected in memory of William Cawood, Canon of York, who died 1419.

wode,¹ a cocke, *Holme Sable* a griffin rampant or. *Anthony Beke*,² Bishop of Durham, Gules a cross molyn ermine. *Lascelles*, Argent, 3 chaplets gules. *Ughtred*,³ Gules on a cross patonce or 3 mullets. *Cressacre* on whose stone is 3 [lions rampant]. *Langton*,⁴ precentor, Argent, 3 chevrons gules, *Langton* Gules a chevron ermine between 3 . . . argent.

When I come to Oxford (which will be this night I hope) I will wait on your brother at Magdalen College, and not forget my book of armes when I get to Aynho. As soon as my bookseller meets with Dngdale's Baronage⁵ he will send it you. There is no more roome but to write myselfe

Sir, your much obliged
Matth. Hutton

My service to M^{rs} Comber and M^r Conyers and M Stainforth.
To the Rev^d D^r Thomas Comber
Precentor of Yorke.

120. DR JOHN MAPLETOFT⁶ TO T.C.

Oct : 11 : 87

You see, dear Sir, to what advantage I disposed of the paper you sent me to peruse.⁷ Besides my want of health and time for my

¹ Thomas Greenwood, LL.D., Canon of York, died 1421.

² Anthony Bek, Bishop of Durham 1283-1311. His arms were sometimes impaled with those of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem. (*Yorksh. Arch. Journal*, xxvi, p. 119.)

³ The Ughtred arms seem sometimes to have shown four mullets and sometimes five.

⁴ There were two Langton memorial brasses; those of William Langton, Dean, who died in 1298, and of Richard Langton, mentioned here, who was Rector of Lythe and Precentor of the Minster, and died in 1470. Sir John Langton, a Yorkshire Knight, who is on the military roll of Henry VI, bore arms: *Gules* a chevron *ermine* between three lions rampant *or*. Dean Langton was commemorated by a table tomb on four short pillars, bearing an effigy at full length.

⁵ William Dugdale. *The Baronage of England*. 2 vols. London 1675-6.

⁶ John Mapletoft. Fellow, Trinity College, Cambridge. M.A. 1655; M.D. 1667; D.D. 1690. Practiced medicine in London and was Gresham Professor of Physic 1675-9. Rector of Braybroke and later of St. Lawrence, Jewry; Lecturer at St. Christopher's, London, 1685. F.R.S. 1676. Wrote on theological subjects, including: *The Principles and Duties of the Christian Religion*, 1710.

⁷ The MS. of *A Discourse Concerning the Second Council of Nice*, published in the following year.

own necessary occasions, I remembered, (tho' you did not) that I had lost 20 yeares in other Studys, and therefore put them into a much better hand.¹ They are now again in my possession, ready to be disposed of as you shall order. And you will please to write your mind about the matter to M^r Williams, who with the Deans of Canterbury² and Norwich³ did me the favour to see me this day, where your papers were discoursed of. If the French minister⁴ (who I have not seen now some months) goes on to print, he shall have the paper you sent to,

Dear Sir

your humble Servant

Jo : Mapleton

121. JOHN WILLIAMS TO T.C.

SIR,

At the instance of D^r Mapleton, I took into my hands a Manuscript sent from you, and because in a letter sent to me with it you question whether the Author is not prevented by a book lately published⁵ upon somewhat the like Argument, I compared them both together, and though there are many of the same things said and observed on both, yet I cannot see how they can be well omitted in the last without some detriment to it, if it be published. And I think it well deserves publication, because it pursues the subject singly, which the other has intermixed with other Arguments and authorities. But however its fit the Author should give his reader some Advertisement about it, and point to some things in the former book and to refer his reader thither, as for instance there are

¹ The Rev. John Williams.

² John Tillotson, Dean 1670-89.

³ John Sharp, Dean of Norwich 1681-89, afterwards Dean of Canterbury, and in 1691 Archbishop of York.

⁴ No hint is given as to the name of the French minister or the title of his work. The Huguenot refugee ministers in England joined in the anti-Roman controversy at this time, but I can find nothing published during the next two years which deals specifically with the subjects of Comber's book.

⁵ *The Fallibility of the Roman Church* demonstrated from the manifest errors of the second Nicene and Trent Councils, which assert that the veneration and honorary worship of Images is a Tradition primitive and apostolical. By Daniel Whitby, D.D., London 1687.

some Authorities about the Frankford¹ Council which are omitted in the last that should be taken notice of if not inserted. They are to be found in the preface p. 5, in the Book. p. 61. 62. 63, 72, though most of them are already in the Manuscripts. And so some other things may be observed. It would be convenient also that there should be a Syllabus prefixed before every Chapter, and which may be set together at the beginning or end of the book, if there be occasion. If I have any other businesse to communicate to you, I shall observe your directions. I am, Sir,

Your faithfull servant

John Williams.

Octob. 11. 1687.

If you have occasion to write me, you may direct your letter to me at my house in Charls's Square near Horkesdon.

Among some of your acquaintances at . . . it was suggested Spanheim had wrote a book last year *De*²

122. ——— TO T.C.

London. May 22 (88)

SIR.

I suppose that every man who is concern'd either distributing or reading his Majesties declaration would be willing to know what is don above : you may therefore please to take this short account

¹ The Frankfort Council was held in 794, attended by some three hundred bishops of Western Europe. Its second canon condemned the second Council of Nicaea and all worship of images.

² The transcriber has failed at the critical moment here. There were two Spanheims, Ezekiel and Frederic, brothers. Ezekiel (1629-1710) was Professor of Rhetoric at Leyden. He became tutor to the sons of the Elector Palatine. At the Congress of Breda 1665 he represented the Palatinate and Brandenburg. Later he was envoy from the King of Prussia. He was a great numismatist and in 1700 we find him desiring to borrow Thoresby's catalogue of coins. He wrote *De Praestantia et Usu Numismatum Antiquorum*, published at Amsterdam in 1671, but there were several editions. Thoresby in 1695 tells how he was transcribing Spanheim's *De Raris Numismatibus*. Comber was interested in coins as his note-books show. Most probably, however, the reference is to some work of Frederick Spanheim (1632-1701) who was Professor of Theology at Heidelberg in 1655 and at Leyden in 1670. His *Historia Imaginum Restituta* was published in 1686. This is probably the work referred to. He wrote voluminously on Ecclesiastical History. His collected works in three folio volumes contain his *Historia Ecclesiastica*, *Geographia Sacra*, *Chronologia Sacra* &c. The third volume contains *Evangelicarum Vindiciarum* which has a section *De Praescriptione in rebus Fidei*, his only title beginning with the preposition *De*.

from a Stranger, That 8 Bishoppes who are now in Towne have resolved upon conscientious accounts, not to distribute the said declarations, and several others (tho' not personally present here) are like minded. That six¹ of these, viz The Bishoppes of S^t Asaph, Ely, Chichester, Bath and Wells, Bristoll and Peterborough, upon Friday night Last, presented a Petition to the King, Signed by themselves, and the Lord ArchBishopp of Canterbury, that he would not insist upon the distributeing and reading of it. That the Bishopp of Glocester² (who came to Town that night) heartily concurred, tho' he came not in time to be present at the delivery of the petition. That in the cities of London and Westminster, and the Borough of Southwark not above 7 or 8 read the Declaration upon Sunday Last, and scarcely one or other of those, of any consideration : and in some of there congregations a great part of the people, and in one of them all but 2 or 3 went out. Sir you may make what use of this you please, but I assure you it is well meant and cometh from a Loyal Subject

and a true son of
the Church

123. H(ENRY) W[ATKINSON] TO T.C.

June 5. 88.

DEAR SIR

I received a letter from my cousen Lawson Saturday evening, he tels me M^r Ridley has ordered M^r Armitage³ to take care of his moneys whoe will be from London at Leeds Friday next where I intend to be the day following, and shall admit the matter about the receiving of it, Cousen Lawson⁴ seems to decline it by reason of the charge of carriage to Leeds, the hazard and trouble of returns, he intimates to me something of a bond of 300^l to be put into his

¹ The seven Bishops were Sancroft, Lloyd of St. Asaph, Turner of Ely, Lake of Chichester, Ken of Bath and Wells, White of Peterborough and Trelawny of Bristol.

² Robert Frampton was Bishop of Gloucester 1681-91.

³ There is a reference apparent to this Mr. Armitage in *Letters to Ralph Thoresby*, Thoresby Society, p. 83.

⁴ This is probably Godfrey Lawson, Alderman and sometime Mayor of Leeds, who died in 1709. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Joseph Watkinson of Ilkley. In 1685 he bought land in Armley and Holbeck from Sir Michael Wentworth. Mary, another daughter of Joseph Watkinson of Ilkley, married Wilfrid Lawson. The Armitage referred to was evidently a Leeds business man.

hand, which I doe not well understand, I shall be back at York this day-sennight, hope Armitage will meet me here and receive the moneys at York : I would gladly be well quitt of it.

I hope your neighbouring clergy have been as unanimous as ours here were, I hear, they were very stanch and stout in the matter at Ripon, Bedal, Malton &c.

I had above 20 Clergymens names from Wakefield whoe all agree not to read the Declaration : The Letter was effectually . . . ; service to all yours : in haste

Yours affectionately

York : June 5th/88.

H.W

For the Reverend D^r Tho : Comber
these.

124. DR. GEO. HICKES TO T.C.¹

9 Jun. 1688.

DEAR SIR

I have this 9 dayes deferred answering your letter, to see if some difficulties which hinder me from meeting you at Nottingham would by God's good providence be removed. The first was my own weaknesse after a feavour, and a most severe method of physick to pluck up the feavour by the rootes (as the doctor phrased it). But this I thank God is well over, and as I am able enough to take the journey, so I believe it would do me good. The second is the sicknesse of my wife, who hath also had the new feavour, and cannot be well enough in so short a time as to justify my leaving of her (especially in this juncture) to see any other freind. And the third thing that detaines me is the obligation I am particularly under to be assisting to our Bishop if he should be called up for not distributing the Declaration, as it is probable he will be within 14 dayes : and if that should be, I would not be wanting, when I should be most serviceable to him, and truly to take such a journey to see a freind upon such an occasion would, I beleive, give some umbrage of jealousy, as if I had contrived the journey when I was expected.

¹ The *Memoirs*, p. 263, say that this letter is from Dr. Hickes. A pencil note on Raine's copy says the same, but with a query. It reads like Hickes. As he was Dean of Worcester he would be an important help to the bishop, and he speaks of the neighbouring dioceses of Oxford, Lichfield and Hereford.

to appear elsewhere, because I had a mind to be out of the way. I pray present my service to M^r Mompesson, and thanks for his kind invitation. In the neighbouring dioceses of Oxford, Lychfeild and Hareford, where the Declarations were distributed, I cannot hear of above four or 5 ministers in each diocese that read them. Not one was read in Oxford town or University, but one in Hereford town, and the people went all out of the Church. I should be glad to hear how the Declaration fair'd in your diocesse, and the Bishoprick of Durrham, where the newes letters tell us it was very zealously recommended. I am glad Henry and his master are shortly to be in York. I hope they will part there.

I am extreemly troubled I cannot meet you. I think it necessary for every Church to have its Apostolos or messengers in these times, that we may communicate our counsells with more conveniency and privacy to one another for the common good. I hope we shall all do our duty to our religion without transgressing our duty to our sovereign, it being our common principle to obey him in all things where we can in conscience, and where we cannot to submit to his royall displeasure patiently and meekly, after the example of the primitive confessors that have gon before us in the faith.

I hope the Roman Catholicks will not be too severe upon us, if they consider how their clergy would have received such a Declaration in countrys where their religion is established, and what they would have don here, if they had been commanded to read the 39 Articles or the Act of Uniformity to their people. Nay, as to the Declaration, I am persuaded that neither the Pope, nor any popish counsell, nor the College of Sorbon,¹ would give it under their hands that an unbounded toleration is agreeable to the doctrine of unity in the Gospell and the writings of the Fathers, or the constitution of the Catholick Church. However, let us bear all with Christian meeknesse, and pray day and night unto God for our gracious Soverain and the Church

For the Reverend D^r Cumber

Precentor of the Cathedrall Church

in York, York.

¹ The College of the Sorbonne in the University of Paris, from 1253 to the Revolution, was devoted entirely to theology and was the greatest theological school in Europe.

125. DR. DENIS GRANVILLE TO T.C.¹Durham. October 22^d 1688.

MY DEAR AND WORTHY FRIEND.

I am willing to absolve you from all your sins not only in a Declarative but Judiciary Way for the comfortable Intelligence you have sent mee, concerning your Arch-Bishoppes Determination to Set up the weekly Sacrament in your Cathedrall, which hath Revived my soul and which I cannot better Requite, than by Returning you the like joyful news, that the same good work of Piety is Determined to be set on foot (next month) in the metropolitall Church of Canterbury, as you will perceive by the Inclosed Copy of the Deans Letter to mee which I Received by last Post. This Renowned Act of Devotion will Cause the Arch Bishoppes to be for ever Dear to all Truly pious Souls: and make you, for promoting it, more famous (if it bee possible) than your work. My Head is soe full of Crotchets (I have Friends at Durham, who so Terme all such Honest Designs of mine for the Church) that I cannot yet Resolve on my Journey to York; but still have it in Designation with my Hearty Service and Love to yourself Lady and Family I Rest

My Dear Brother
your faithfull and Affectionate
Friend Servant and Brother
Denis Grenville

126. DR. JAMES JOHNSON TO T.C.

Feb 28. 88.

SIR

The Archbishop of Canterbury having by the last post sent a letter to the vice chancellor to desire the university within 14 dayes to proceed to the election of a Chancellor:² at a meeting of the

¹ Not in the *Remains of Denis Granville* (Surtees Soc.).

² On the death of the Duke of Albemarle, Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, was elected Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, but he declined the office. The Dukes of Somerset and Norfolk, as well as Danby, were proposed and the Duke of Somerset was elected in March (D'Oyly, *Life of Sancroft*, p. 244).

Heads severall were proposed, amongst others I mentioned the earle of Danby, and the rather because your friend, as well as a person very well qualified, some were for having none under a Duke, I replied a Lord or other if he were for our purpose might be as well. All were so indifferent that I perceive they might easily be determined for any person in favour: if you think fit you may write me your thoughts about the E.¹ Not that I am so vain as to conceive that I can order such an affair, nor indeed call all the Heads together, but if a letter of recommendation be sent from some you are acquainted with, it may do more then you are aware of. I know it is a ticklish thing, because depending upon so many persons, but whoever it is, must be named by some one first. I would not have his name brought upon the stage, to be foiled: but none objecting against him, if it takes with the body, it may soon be done. When you have read this, comit it to the flames, if it proves for no other use, it may inform you what we are about, and assure you that I am

Sir your affectionate Cosen and servant

J.J.²

S. C. Feb. 28. 88.

Duke of { [Somerset]
 { [Norfolk were named but not concluded on.

127. T.C. TO LORD DANBY.³

MY LORD.

The Archbishop of Canterbury very lately chosen Chancellor of the University of Cambridge hath upon this revolution resigned that place and desired them to choose some other. Upon a meeting of the heads a friend of mine, Master of a Colledge named

¹ Earl, referring to Danby.

² Dr. James Johnson was admitted as a pensioner to Sidney Sussex College on June 29th 1655. He matriculated in 1656, was B.A. 1658-9, M.A. 1662, B.D. 1669, D.D. 1689, Fellow 1662, Master 1688-1704, Vice-Chancellor 1689-90. He was admitted at Gray's Inn June 8th 1657, but chose the Church rather than the Bar. He calls Comber 'cousin' and the *Memoirs* refer to him as a relative, at the same time calling him Samuel. The Assistant Librarian of Sidney, the Rev. G. W. F. Coupe, kindly searched for me and could find no trace of a Samuel Johnson at Sidney during the seventeenth century.

³ Undated, but must follow very closely upon the last.

your Lordship and the motion seemed likely to take before any others, of which last nights post brought me private notice : The place is reckoned Honourable and hath been held by Persons of the first Qual(ity) and the greatest Ministers of State, and I beleieve it will be serviceable to the University to elect your Lordship, however I thought good to acquaint your Lordship only to know if it be don whether you would please to accept, it being unusuall for them to be denyed when the choice is made. I shall keep your Lordships notice to me very private, but desire to hear this night, because my friend expects an answer this nights post of my opinion in the matter which I am unwilling to give without this application from

My Lord
Your Lordships f: servant
T: Comber.

128. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Stone, March 8th 89¹

SIR

What reception this address may meet with I am altogether ignorant, it Coming from a stranger, and possibly the design of it being not weighty enough to justify the disturbing your hours which are alwayes bestow'd on things of the greatest and most valuable concernment. All therefore Sir, that I can plead as an excuse for this paper is the goodness of its intention which here I hope is no popery, and yet even this I cannot think sufficient to attone for the trouble it brings you, and therefore I must in you Sir, seek for what is wanting in this and will be obliged to nothing but your extraordinary Candour and Charity which I hope will both forgive and direct me too in the following Case which I humbly offer to your Consideration. Sir, I am now the possessor of an estate part of which to the value of about *two hundred and fifty pound a year* Consists of *Tythes* and *Glebe Lands*, and tho' I am at a great distance from popery, yet I must Confess I am not very well satisfy'd of the

¹ This is clearly 1689 and not 1690. It is obviously the first of a series.

Lawfulness of those *first alienations from the Church* and therefore would willingly be satisfy'd whether by the rules of Christian justice *they ought not to be return'd from whence they were taken* or left to some other pious use : Sir tis to this end this scribble importunes your advice, and I conjure you to give it me with all the impartial freedom in the world and assure your self Sir, I will with all fidelity give myself up to your Conduct and follow the method you prescribe, and that you may the better know how to frame your Directions, you may be pleas'd to understand this estate is absolutely at my own disposall, having no entaile on it. Sir, I am the possessor as the only child of my deceased Father. I am a widow without any child, and I have no near Relations who want it, and on all these Circumstances, pray Sir, be so charitable as to tell me how I ought to dispose of this part of my estate when I dye and now Sir I must assume my First discourse I beg you once more to Forgive this, I am very sensible the most favorable Answerer must needs say it looks odd and particular to send at such a distance for the solution of what I might have found nearer home : and the excellent D^r Comber should not be consulted for trifles, but pray Sir, don't reflect too severely on me, if I am earnest to obtain the best advice, that is yours Sir, which I have desir'd for above this *two year but never could meet with a safe Conveyance for my Letter* and I have some very good reasons to forbear making this publick, and therefore I desire it may go no further than your own Breast :

Sir, if you think this deserves an answer D^r Alston¹ will convey it safe, and I shall always remember your Blessing with gratitude and thanks. I have already exceeded the bounds of a letter and yet Sir, I must make one request more that you would remember me in your prayers where I am Confident you allow a place to all that are in distress and on which score (if you will forgive the freedom) I may add you have formerly promised me a place tho' then Sir, you knew not who I were : yes Sir, you have once already sent me your advice in another Case, by a second hand for which I now return you my most Humble thanks, and will Trespass no longer

¹ Christopher Alston, of Strixton, Northants. B.A. Clare, Cambridge, 1670; M.A. 1673, Fellow 1671, D.D. 1685; incorporated at Oxford 1676; Chaplain to Bishop Compton; Archdeacon of Essex 1689; Rector of Strixton 1681; Vicar of Northall, Middlesex 1685; Prebendary of St. Paul's 1681; Treasurer 1707. Died 1714.

on your patience when I have beg'd you to allow me the honor of
owning myself

Sir, your most oblig'd
and most humble servant

Martha Cary¹

This
To the Rev^d
Dr Comber
in London

129. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY

April 4th 89.

MADAM.

There is nothing in your kind letter which looks like trouble but the too great commendations you give to one who knows he doth not deserve them. Your Character which I can gather from your own Pen, and have received from others makes it a favour and an honour to me to be esteemed your Friend, and your Case is so pious that I were unworthy to be your Councillor if it needed to be introduced to me with any Apology. Wherefore before I answer the query you are pleased to put, I cannot but say I do esteem it to be the good Spirit of God which puts so just and charitable a thought into your generous heart, because I see so many even who do not need such kind of estates keep them without scruple while they live,

¹ Sir George Cary of Clovelly, son and heir of George Cary, D.D., Dean of Exeter, was knighted by Charles II during his father's life. He was Recorder and M.P. for Okehampton. He died 6th January 1684-5, aged thirty-one. His will dated 6th January proved . . . 1684-5. He married (1) Elizabeth Jenkyn (marriage licence dated 1676). She died 1677 aged 21. (2) Martha, daughter and heir of William Davie of Canonteign. Her will dated 20th July 1695 proved 29th July 1698. She died without issue. This Martha Cary seems to be the writer of this and following letter. She would probably be younger than he and her age seems to fit in with what the letter-writer says of herself, and the latter also describes herself as a childless widow.

In *Chancery Proceedings ante 1714* there is a case in 1698, *Holt v. Drew*, concerning the personal estate of Martha Cary at Parkham. Parkham is close to Bideford. There is a second case, *Gibbons v. Bowdage*, concerning the personal estate of Dame Martha Cary at Cannonting, i.e. Canonteign, near Exeter, where her father lived.

Young, and as we hear from her letters, delicate, she died in 1698. It seems reasonably certain that she is the lady of the letters. I am indebted to the Genealogical Society for this information.

Stone must be a small hamlet or perhaps a house in or near Bideford. It does not seem to appear in the *Gazetteers*.

and give them to a meer Lay-peer at their Deaths. I have in print declared my sense of these Alienations in my book of Tithes with which if I had convenience I would present your Ladyship, but in short, I am of opinion, that since Monks were no order of Christs institution nor necessary to the Church and for their fraud in getting and luxury in spending, their revenues were justly suppressed in this nation. There may be some reason why the Lands once belonging to them should by Parliament be alienated, though if they had in whole or part (however) applyed to pious and public uses it had been much better: But for the Glebe and Tithes which were originally given to God for the maintenance of Clergy who have cure of souls, and indeed originally due to them, since this order of men were instituted by Christ and his Apostles, and their office must continue to the world's end, they ought never to have been alienated from them. But the beginning of these Alienations are to be found in Popish times, when the secular Clergy growing ignorant, The Pious Laity who were Patrons by the Bishops consents did give the Lands and great Tithes of their Churches to some Abby, on condition that the Monks (who were then the best of the Clergy) should on the Sundays and greater Festivals &c come and instruct the People of those Parishes and take care of their Souls, leaving only oblations and some small Tithes to a Vicar to do daily offices on the place. But in the Hurry of other businesse that Parliament which suppressed the Abbys and Monasterys, took away not only their Lands but those Impropriations, with which the Abbys were barely intrusted, and left the whole care of the Souls upon the poor Vicar, who now wants the best part of his reward his originall right, and yet hath all the duty lye upon him. So that generally there is a poor maintenance and a vast duty belongs to those Parishes where these Impropriations lye. Therefore your Ladyship's first enquiry must be (in my opinion) into the state of the Vicaridge where this Impropriation lyes, and if it have not already a sufficient maintenance Suitable to the Duty and Cure annexed to it then it seems fit in the first place to settle so much on that as will make it an honorable competency: and because the Division of Parishes and the allotment of Proportions of Tithes and glebe to this or that Church is of humane institution, I make no doubt after that Parish be competently provided for, but your Ladyship may out of the rest

adde to the augmentation of such other poor Vicaridges as you shall think most meet. And because when you make this settlement it will be both pious and prudent to take care as well that the Parish or Parishes you shall endow or augment may be supplied with good men, as well as provided with sufficient maintenance if your Ladyship be not already Patronesse, it is advisable (I think) to purchase the Advowson perpetuall and to make the Bishop of the Diocese or some Colledge in one of the Universityes designed for breeding Divines the Patrons of the first Vicaridge or Vicaridges so endowed, for that is a much surer way to secure a succession of worthy men in the cure than to have the Patronage in any Private family. I know there will be some difficulty in getting this don, but the good Bishop of London with the help of an Able Lawyer will easily find out a way to bring about this excellent Charity, and indeed since it is a provision for doing good to Souls, I judge it to be the wisest and best part of Charity and in your Ladyships case the justest in the world. And I pray God who hath given your Ladyship this pious inclination to preserve you to see it settled so firmly while you live that it may be completed when you dye, and make many hereafter call you blessed and remember you with gratefull hearts. In the mean time I ought to beg your Ladyships pardon for this freedom, but because I would invite you to write to me without ceremony and communicate your thoughts to me without complement when I have assured you that your Letters shall always be welcome to me and that I will not cease to pray for you I shall subscribe my self

Madam :

130. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Stone June 1st 89

SIR.

Yours of the 3rd of Aprill came safe to me in its due season, and I beg you would receive my most hearty thanks for it, I am infinitely oblig'd to you for your advice which I will follow to the utmost of my power and always remember your kindnesse with the most gratefull sentiments and this Sir (as it was my Duty) I had told you sooner had not the sickness and Death of a Dear friend put me

beyond the possibility of writing and thrown me into a Condition that makes me beg to be the object of your pittty, and could a paper tell it you, I am Confident you would say, I deserved it. This account is neither Apology nor Compliments both which you have kindly forbid me (tho the latter I must confess I am at a great distance from) but tis such a freedom I could not have ventur'd on, but in obedience to your obliging injunctions, freedom and plainness is what I am very fond of and I can never be thankfull enough to you for injoyning me what is so agreeable to my Temper. Sir, if this come to your hands, and you can spare so much tyme from better employs as to write to me, you may please to direct for me at Stone, to be left at the posthouse in Bitheford Devon: and so by London post it will come safe, but how glad I shall be of it I can not tell you, only this I must beg leave to say that your letters and Councill are the only things I can now call pleasant in the world: and because they are so I fear to looze them, I am affraid when you know me better you will grow weary of my letters, for I am *uneasy* and *Querelous* and *shall be perpetually Complaining*; but you may easily find by this long letter how far I am already advanc'd towards the Tryall of your patience. I cannot forbear begging pardon for it, and desiring you to assure me, by your own hand that you allow me the character of

Sir, your most
oblig'd, and most thankfull
Humble Servant

Stone June 1st 89.

M. Cary

131. THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER TO T.C.

June 26th (89)

SIR

Amongst other late Treatises (which flie about like motes in the sun) I have seen and read one entitled, A Letter to a Bishop &c¹ of which you are generally conceived to be the Authour, and I think I have reason to believe it.

¹ *A Letter to a Bishop concerning the present Settlement and the New Oaths*, 1689. Comber disclaimed this publication.

In that letter I find a knot which I cannot untie (tho I have taken some pains in it) and therefore crave your help. The knot in short is this. Jehoahaz, who succeeded Josiah in the kingdom of Judah, is expressly said by that Authour to have been the fourth and youngest¹ son of Josiah, p. 28, and Zedekiah (who after two other Reigns intervening, succeeded in the kingdom) p. 29. (and consequently elder brother to Jehoahaz). And of this the Authour maketh great use to serve his hypothesis now consulting the Scriptures (to which the Authour himself referreth) I find that Jehoahaz was 23 years old when he began to reign, 2 Kings 23. 32. 2 Chron. 36. 2 yet Zedekiah was but 22 years old when he began to reign, 2 Kings 24. 18, 2 Chron. 36. 11, which was about 12 years after.

This (Sir) is a knot (to me) more than Gordian. Te dignus vindice nodus. And for a . . . as the Letter is designed to satisfy the scrupulous, I hope you will not Grudg at this trouble which is given by

your weak brother
Jo Cicester

132. THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER TO T.C.²

SIR

There are sundry other things wherein I need your help particularly that the Authour is doubtfull whether Jehoahaz was living when Jehoiakim began to reign. p. 28, yet when Zedekiah

¹ The difficulty seems to have been that the author of the pamphlet began by asserting Jehoahaz to be the youngest son of four. The facts relating to these Kings as set forth in the Bible are: After Josiah, *Jehoahaz* was set up by the people. He was twenty-three years old, two years younger than his brother Jehoiakim who was twenty-five years old that same year and about fourteen years older than his brother Zedekiah. He reigned three months and was carried off as a prisoner to Egypt, where he remained for the rest of his life. (Jer. xxii. 10-12.) Pharaoh-Necho then set up his brother Eliakim and changed his name to *Jehoiakim*. He remained on the throne for eleven years. He was twenty-five years old at his accession, and when he died he was succeeded by his son *Jehoiachin*, aged eighteen years. He only ruled three months and was succeeded by his father's brother, brother of the first two Kings mentioned here. The new King's name was changed from Mattaniah to *Zedekiah*. He was twenty-one years old at his accession and reigned eleven years. *Jehoiachin* was living during Zedekiah's reign. One would have thought they could have read these things for themselves, and one wonders at a bishop having to appeal to Comber. The pamphlet referred to of course had a political bearing. Deposition of Kings and the substitution of their relatives while they themselves lived in exile like Jehoahaz was a much debated subject in 1689.

² Undated, but following close upon the last.

began to reign 11 years after, and during his whole reign, which was 11 years more, he stoutly affirmeth him to be living,¹ p. 29. On the other hand he (in kindness to his hypotheses) leaveth it doubtfull whether Jehoiakim was then dead; when the Scriptures expressly saith, So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers and Jehoiakin his son reigned in his stead. 2 Kings 24. 6. To these many more of like nature might be added: but I would not be too importunate. Only this I must crave leave to say, that so far as my little conversation toucheth I find the Letter to have raised more scruples than it hath satisfied.

If you please to favour me with an Answer, you may direct to me at M^r . . . at Boddington near Croydon in Surrey or order your letter to be left with M^r Powell at M^r Brooms house at the [*Gun* at] the west end of S^t Paul's London. Both wayes it will come to the hands of

Yours as before
J : C.

133. T.C. TO THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER

York July 3^d 1689

MY LORD.

The letter to a Bishop is written by so fine a pen that I am too much honoured in being mistaken for the Authour of it and I assure your Lordship in verbo sacerdotis 'tis none of mine, nor did I ever see it either in MS. or in print till it came down and was publicly sold at York. I confess I was highly pleased with those clear and convincing reasons it gives for our submission to the present Government and especially because I hoped it might contribute very much to the satisfying of your Lordship and the rest of the Churches great and usefull friends, whose dissent at this juncture is not only their own but our misfortune, and when I perceived your Lordship had so mean an opinion of it I was really much troubled and saw that unless these be . . . mecum facit there is neither sapit nor Jove judicat equo: However I am not concerned

¹ The Bible gives no information as to the date of his death.

to vindicate any mistakes of an Authour I do not know, and I always thought the inference taken from matters of fact in kingdoms so remote as Judah and Israel though set down in Scripture are not near so convincing as those evidences which our own and our neighbour nations afford to prove the monarchys in these parts of the world to have all begun by conquest and been settled by express contract between the Kings and people and there can be no security that this contract may be observed unless the whole body of the people by their representatives may take the forfeiture of that princes power, who attempts wholly to break it, and take these rights from him to which they have as just a claim as he hath to the Sovereignty and since it was the express condition of his Admission to the Government to defend us in these rights and is the very end why God ordained and why we submit to government: I can see no injustice in our taking this forfeiture when their was no other way to hinder the prince from breaking in upon all these rights which he had sworn to maintain, and especially when rather than go on with a Treaty for remedying this by Parliament he voluntarily at first deserted us in a disguise and left us to shift for ourselves when he neither could nor would protect us in such a way as the contract obliged him to do. And in this case I can freely transfer my Allegiance to her whom I believe to be the next Heir and him whom shee freely assumes with the nations consent to govern with her, though there had been no example of such a case in Scripture or in any Monarchy of a different Constitution: And therefore I wonder why that Author should run out so far for such instances, and I believe your Lordship has rightly noted there are some mistakes in that part but your Lordship knows the Scripture it selfe hath had many interpreters into the same error by calling the sons of Josiah by different names and placing them in different order in those places where they are mentioned.

However two things are plain. First that Jehoahaz was but 23 year old when he began to reign and Jehoiakim who succeeded him after 3 months was 25 year old when he began, and therefore Jehoahaz was the younger brother of these two yet by the peoples consent the Allegiance was paid to this younger brother while the elder and the heir to that hereditary monarchy was living. Secondly that Zedekiah (who was also certainly younger than Jehoiakim) was

set up by a Conqueror and had Allegiance paid to him while his elder brothers son Jehoiachin was living (for he was delivered out of prison at Babylon 37 years after. 2 Kings 25. 27) and the people were never blamed for submitting to his government since the true heir was by Gods just judgment put out of all capacity to govern them, now these two things seem to me sufficient to make out that Authours Hypothesis and the rest is added without need: but though that be somewhat strained to overdo the business there is enough in that book to satisfy all unprejudiced men that our submission in the present case is very lawfull, which I pray God to encline your Lordship and the rest of your Right Reverend and Learned brethren to believe, the news of which would extremely damp the hopes of our enemies and rejoyce all the true friends of our poor Church and especially of

My Lord

Your Lordships most humble and faithfull servant

T. Comber.

134. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

July 6. 89.

SIR

It is now about two months since I presum'd to return my most passionate thanks, for the great favour of yours and promis'd to follow your advice in every thing that lay in my power. I did also in it Sir, acquaint you of the loss of a friend (which has reduc'd me to a very miserable Condition) was the reason I had not payd the just tribute sooner, but Sir, I am now induc'd to believe this never had the Happinesse of Reaching your hands, and this supposition tempts me to send this paper on the same errand that was design'd for. I hope Sir, it may be pardonable, even if you did receive my first, since I did not know it for I had rather be twice troublesome to you than lye under the imputation of an intolerable ingratitude: forgive me therefore, worthy Sir, Forgive me this and Continue to me the Charity of a Remembrance and the Blessing of your prayers,

and good Sir do not deny me the so much desir'd satisfaction of
owning myself

Sir
your very much obliged, and
thankfull humble servant
M. Cary

Stone July 6th

Sir, if you think me worthy the favor of a Lyne, it will find me
directed at Stone to be left at the post house in Bitheford Devon.

135. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY¹

MADAM.

I certainly answered your Ladyships last letter to me and it is my misfortune that you did not receive it, for I have had some troubled thoughts at your long silence, first I conjectured I might have disoblged you, and at last I began to fear the losse of so valedwed a person, and writ to London two months ago to enquire of D^r Alston concerning your health, whose not returning me any answer hath been the sole cause ever since why I did not give You the trouble of a line. However this account from your own hand imports your health at which I do heartily rejoyce, for the respect you expresse to me and the obligations you have layd upon me make it my reall concern to pray for your health and the continuance of so worthy a freind: whose complaints can never be . . . to me: were it not for my fears I cannot contribute to your satisfaction, but my prayers and utmost endeavours shall never be wanting to be employed that way, and I shall scarce think you beleive me to be sincere if you do not freely command me: As to the Case your Ladyship proposeth, I could better resolve it, if I knew all the circumstances. Tis certain that the limitation of all our voluntary charitys as to persons or places, are in our own power, and if we have good reasons for altering either of those circumstances, before we have so limited them by explicit promises that some will be injured by the change of our mind, we may alter our intentions: Indeed as to the summe we pitch upon nothing can justify our lessening that after we have

¹ Undated, but obviously a reply to the last.

determined it, but only pure disability by some unforeseen accident, but as to persons and places, there are objects everywhere and God doth not confine us, unlesse it be to prefer relations and good Christians before mere strangers and infidels. I do not say this to invite your Ladyship to bend your Charity this way for though I took very great care in bestowing the last as you directed and gained many prayers and thanksgivings for you thereby, yet I would not do that injury to any true objects of charity neer you as to encourage your Ladyship to prefer such as I know before them: Only when I receive any of your commands of this kind, I shall most faithfully discharge them, and in the mean time I am sure that I have said in generall will suffice to make you your own Casuist and Confessor: Madam I hope you received my two books in defence of Liturgys (which M^r Clavell was ordered to send) though you do not mention them: Since their publication a Conformist who goes to Conventicles, one M^r Bold, hath given me some trouble with a fallacious answer to some part of them. I confesse the designs of that party which are at work to undermine us, may force a reply from me, though nothing in the book deserves it And while I have such adversaries I need your pity and beg your prayers for

Dear Madam &c.

136. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Aug. 6. 89.

I received yours Sir with an inexpressible joy and your delay in writing had no other effect on me but to enhance the Blessing and make it the more welcome. I am infinitely oblig'd to you Dear Sir, for your kind assurance that I have a place in your prayers, and for your great tenderness for me, in Compassionating my loss, my friend Sir was one of your own order, a clergyman of so much piety and prudence, so innocent a life, and so holy a Death that I have no reason to doubt of his happyness: I am very sensible tis love to myself that makes me greive, but yet I could bear it much better, did I not apprehend it to be the effect of Gods anger to me, and though I believe it was in love to my relation and friend, that

heaven delivered him out of this evill world yet with all twas such an instance of his wrath against me, that I am not able to bear. Sir, I have some things (as I writ you in my last) that heightens this consideration which in themselves are triviall and I know not how to write them, but yet for my own ease (a thing I have a long tyme been a stranger too) I have often design'd to wait on you, on purpose to beg your charity would allow me to make my Complaints to you, and that you would lend your kind assistance to a troubled Conscience, a well nigh broken heart, but Sir, I know not whether there is so great a blessing in store for me in this world, and therefore I hope it will be the more pardonable if I punish you with Complaints in my letters: tho' I confess it would be much more to my satisfaction, could I pour them out at your feet, forgive this freedom Dear Sir and receive my thanks, for being my kind monitor assure yourself I will take all effectual care that would I design for good acts shall not be bestow'd any other way, but I think, Sir in my first I told you that I could not give in those things till after my Death, they being the greatest part of what I have to live on: but part of the profits shall be bestow'd in such ways and Sir for the persons you are kind to mention, believe me you very much oblig'd me in it, and if ten or fifteen pound can for the present be any way serviceable to you may Comand it, and Sir, if you will give me your order I will return it by Bill to London as soon as I receive your order on whom to draw it, and if you like not this way, propose any other, and I will gladly follow it: but I can return a Bill to London every week and I presume Sir from thence you may order it to be dispos'd as you please, for this or a greater sum Sir you may command at any time only I beg you would be so kind as not to let me be nam'd and with my small charitys say your Holy prayers, that they may be accepted. I remember, Sir, you have forbid me Apologys, therefore I will make none for this long letter, only desire you to believe, that tho' the freedoms you allow me, make me often troublesome, yet they shall never Impaire that deep and undissembl'd veneration, I ought to have for D^r Comber for I will always be with the greatest deference

Dear Sir

Your very faithfull and humble servant

M. Cary

I am much obliged to your good lady for her Charitable opinnion,
and I beg you, Sir to give her my humble service

This

To The much Honrd

137. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY

Aug: 24: 89

MADAM.

The inconsiderable trouble you have given me whose duty it is to serve all good people is not worth either the esteem you have of it or the apologys you are pleased to make for it: And I heartily wish I were able to contribute to your Ladyships satisfaction it would really be a pleasure and no burden to me, I can but guesse at this distance, but I fear your Ladyship may incline a little too much to a melancholy temper, the too frequent effect of a tender Spirit and too strict a retirement: And if that be your Ladyships case, the trouble of the mind in virtuous and devout people is in a great measure the naturall effect of a bodily indisposition though the party who is so affected seldom perceives or will own it, if that be therefore your Ladyships circumstance let me beg of you to avoyd the rigid austeritys of severe fasting and long thinking upon sad objects: You may innocently and in order to your health must use more exercise and some diversion in agreeable company, and now and then some gentle Physic: it being as hard to impresse the most rational grounds of comfort on the mind while the body is indisposed, as to play well on an instrument out of tune, this I am sure, we judge quite differently of the same things when we are in different dispositions of body, and therefore that must be first rectified by proper and naturall means which with Gods blessing will make way for other Comforts to take place: In the mean time tis my humble request to your Ladyship not to judge of the divine favour or wrath by prosperity and adversity in this world where many of his friends deeply suffer, and some of his avowed enemyes are permitted to prosper: We must beleieve God doth not love his best friends who very often are great sufferers here, if all sufferings were arguments of his displeasure, who chasteneth those most which he loves best.

Heb : XII : A good man is a Common blessing and therefore must be a losse to many, but God can and doth raise up others in their stead for his Churches and his servants sake, so that we rather change than loose our good friends, and we shall meet them again when we shall have nothing to do but to rejoyce together : Madam it would be too great a trouble to your Ladyship to take so long a journey and I dare not promise myself the happiness of your personal conversation, but your letters will come safely and in them be pleased with all freedom to unload the troubles which lye upon your Spirit, I shall at least condole with your Ladyship if I cannot satisfy you : I am now more than ever sensible of your extraordinary goodnesse in offering so large a gift upon my first request, but I will intreat your Ladyship to consider your own circumstances and then what over summe it be that you can well spare if it be returned to M^r R : Clavell, Bookseller at the Peacock in S^t Paul's Churchyard : I shall safely and speedily receive it and will faithfully dispose it to those who are pious and poor and will heartily pray for their unknown benefactresse, I shall adde no more but to acquaint your Ladieship that I am really now very busy being ordered to Answer a bold book written in these times of liberty against the Antiquity of Liturgys and forms of prayer, for successe in which undertaking I must beg your Ladieships prayers and do promise your Ladieship shall not want those of

Madam, your Ladieships most affectionte
servant in X.

T. Comber.

138. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY

York : Aug : 24th 1689.¹

MADAM

Since it is my duty and desire to serve all the faithfull servants of my Deer Lord it can be no trouble to me to receive your Ladyships complaints unlesse it be because I cannot more effectually contribute

¹ Unless the date is wrong, Comber seems to have written two long letters to Lady Martha Cary in one day. There is so much in common between the two, however, that one is probably a revision of the other. She only seems to have received one: "Your obliging letter." See next letter.

to your ease and comfort. I have had frequent experience in my neer friends of troubled minds and have so often found them proceed from a melancholy temper of body that with great successe I have advised to begin with some gentle Physic, and to avoid the rigid austerity of severe fasting and long thinking on sad objects as also persuaded such to use more exercise and such innocent diversions as we may take in agreeable company: For it is as hard to impress the most rationall grounds of comforts on the mind of a person indisposed, as to play on an instrument out of Tune: But if the trouble be occasioned purely by external crosses, or scruples in the Mind, Consideration may cure the one and an intelligent Spirituall guide the other. At present I shall only say to the first, that our time is so short and the importance so small of worldly affairs, that we ought not to be too much concerned if they do not go on well, and if we look for our happinesse hereafter, tis too much to expect it here also: However we must not judge of Gods favour or anger by the prosperity or the adversity we meet with on earth, where many of his friends suffer deeply and divers of his enemys prosper, and where we cannot judge of love or hatred by all that is before us Eccles IX: I. He sends our crosses to us for many good ends and it is not our fault to have them layd on, but not to bear them patiently or not to improove by them is our only crime, which if we avoyd, then afflictions mortify our corruptions, quicken our graces, secure our virtue and adds as well to our improvement in God's favour at present, as to our reward for the future: I confesse a true friend is a great losse and a good Man who was a common blessing is extremely missed, but God can raise us up others; and doth so, for his Churches and his servants sake, so that we rather change than loose our friends, and it is our comfort that we only are parted from them a while, since we doubt not but we shall meet with them again when our whole employment shall be to rejoyce together for ever: As for scruples: I am apt to think your Ladyship too judicious to be . . . with many of those troublesome companions which are commonly bred by ignorance and nursed by superstition: Though a tender mind, and much retirement and thoughtfulness sometimes produce these in persons of great piety and knowledge. However I lay this down as a generall Antidote against them That while we are carefull to perform the great instances of duty cleerly

required by God in Scripture, we ought to beleve that we serve so gracious a Master as will not be angry at us for lesser matters, which by our outward circumstances or our naturall temper we scarce can always avoyd: if we do as well as we can, we do what he will accept as if it were perfect obedience through our Lord Jesus Christ: Your Ladyships personall conversation I rather wish than can hope for at this distance, and since Letters come speedily and safely your Ladyship may freely impart whatever troubles your mind to one who will condole with you if he cannot (as he desires) fully comfort you: It is an argument of your extraordinary goodness to offer so large a charity on my first request but I must beg you will consider your own circumstances and give no more than you can very well spare from your occasion and other objects of charity: That summe whatever it be, may be returned to M^r Robert Clavell Bookseller at the Peacock in St Paul's Churchyard and as I shall safely receive so I will faithfully disperse it to some who are both poor and pious and will heartily pray for their benefactresse, unknown to them, but known to him who rewards openly, and that his blessing may ever be upon you shall be the request of

Madam

Your Ladyships faithfull

servant in our common

Lord and Saviour

Tho: Comber:

I am now very busy in answering a bold book writ lately against Liturgys, which compels me to be shorter than I intended. My wife is much pleased to hear of your Ladyships kind acceptance of her respects.

139. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Stone. Oct^{br} 8th 1689.

HONOURED SIR

every line of your obliging letter, Calls for a particular thanks, and that I have not pay'd them sooner, I hope you will readily believe Sir, to be the effect of my Caution, and not of my ingratitude. I am loath to run the hazard of wearying you with too frequent scribbles, especially at this tyme Sir, when you are employ'd in the

vindication of what is so truly Apostolical . . . sure now to divert your [thoughts?] to meaner subjects would be unpardonable, and I would not be guilty of anything that should put me in a capacity of forfeiting your favor and loosing the blessing of your letters : such apprehensions as these, Dear Sir has kept one from telling you how I entertain'd your last with what pleasure I perpetually reflect on it, what infinite satisfaction I take in frequent reading of it and what deep and lasting impressions, your tenderness and charity has made on me. Believe me Sir, I can never thank you enough for the Liberty you give me of making my Complaints to you, but I am affraid should I once begin, I should so perfectly tire you, that you would repent of your kind offer : to know well my present Circumstances Sir, tis almost necessary you should have a history of my life, which *tho' it amount but to few years beyond twenty yet has been filled with extraordinary misfortunes* and I have endur'd enough to have sent most of my sex to their graves, and possibly me too, had not my stupidity been greater than my sufferings for by that name I must Call it, for surely Corage is too good a one for it and yet Sir, I must confess I am of the opininion that no worldly troubles Can sink a soul that is truly pious and if all be well within nothing from without Can hurt; but this is not my Case, my greatest storms have been from within, and where both floods meet, tis insupportable. I Know Sir, that God often sends afflictions for our good, and his judgments to teach us righteousness, but I have baffled their design and how fatal then must be the Consequences? I have mock'd God with promises of amendment which as soon as I have had any reliefe I have broken and return'd to my former follys and this I have done so often that I *begin to distrust the possibility of my being in a Capacity of being sav'd* for how can I be beleiv'd who have been so often false? What methods can be used with me, who have resisted so many? and what adds to my terror sir, is *my Continuell Coldness in all holy dutys, nay wearyness and distraction*, especially at the Sacrament but Alas! whither do I wander? I am already got into the Labyrinth, I shall weary you before I can find the way out again, forgive me, Dear Sir, forgive me this freedom, tis naturall to the oppress'd to be querelous, and therefore I hope you will pardon this rude heap of thoughts and by these general things I have writ, Sir. you may easily find how the Case stands with me—I am extreemly

oblig'd to you Sir for accepting what I offered and for your charity in offering to be the kind distributor of it; and have this week return'd Mr Clavell a Bill for 15^{lb} and yet Sir, it looks so like a piece of vanity to give you this trouble, that I hope you will give me leave to make som Apology for it, and I have this to say for my self Sir that tho' here (as everywhere) there are opportunitys of charity, yet they are generally public, and so dispens'd promiscuously, to ordinary beggars: but above all Sir I have now your prayers joyn'd with it surely the greatest (if not the only) ingredient which will make it accepted. I blush to think of the length of this Letter, I shall really be uneasy till you send me a Pardon for it: I know your goodness will still allow me a place in your prayers, and I hope the character of Dear Sir

your very much oblig'd
and Faithfull humble servant
M. Cary

This
To the much Honrd
My service to and Rev^d Dr Comber
your good Lady at his house in
the City of York
Forwd
Yorkshire
By y^e way of
London
post p^d 3^d

140. T.C. TO DR. SIMON PATRICK¹

York Octob. 19th: 1689

MY LORD,

These are to congratulate your L^{sp}s advancement to a place and station² which your L^{sp} hath long deserved and had sooner enjoyed if merit in times passed had been more considered. I also

¹ Tanner MSS., xxvii, f. 93.

² Simon Patrick. M.A. Queens', Cambridge, 1651; D.D. 1666; Vicar of Battersea 1658-62; Rector of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, 1662-89; Dean of Peterborough 1679; Consecrated Bishop of Chichester 13th October 1689; Bishop of Ely 1691. Died 1707.

heartily rejoyce that you are in this new Commission,¹ wherein I hope both your true affection to the Church and charity to Dissenters who are capable of being obliged will appear: But unless they are wiser and better tempered above then many are in those parts, our condescensions will only help them with arguments to upbraid us, not incline them to part with one opinion in order to a coalition: Tis true there are some few moderate Presb: who always communicate with us on occasion, and the alterations they desire are not many, nor dangerous to our constitution, they will submit to a conditionall reordination, to this very Liturgy with some slight amendments, and some of them to surplice and crosse, yea they approve and practice kneeling at the Sacrament: But the greater part of Dissenters here are independents, who seem incapable of any thing but toleration, and cannot be taken in but by such concessions as will shake the foundation of our Church: and possibly by attempting to gain such as after all will be false friends, we may drive out many true ones both of the considerable Clergy and Laity also: I perceive the like successe of that party in Scotland agt. Episcopacy, and the opinion of their numbers and interest here hath lately advanced their pretences to liberty of Conscience into hopes of legall establishment and Dominion over all others, to which I know the great pillars of our Church will be cautious how they contribute: And till they be well assured what these Gentlemen would have, and also fully satisfied that their desires are consistent with our establishment and safety I hope they will give them no encouragement: I know very little in our Liturgy against which they could ever make one wise objection and nothing but what hath been and may be justified, yet to gain friends or comply with consciences really tender, something may be abated: but alas what content will that give to them, when Clarkson (whose book I am now answering) writes against all set Forms; as having their originall in ignorant and superstitious ages, and as

¹ The Comprehension Bill was introduced into the House of Lords on March 11th 1689 and was passed in that House on April 8th. It was only read once in the House of Commons. Before going further the King was asked to summon Convocation to consider the matters raised. A Commission, ultimately consisting of nine bishops and twenty-one Doctors of Divinity, was appointed. Power to prepare a scheme was granted to this Commission by warrant dated 4th September 1689. The Commission was to review rubrics, ceremonies and canons and to prepare amendments for Convocation when it met on 21st November 1689. A scheme was drawn up, but a storm of opposition to it arose. Convocation never considered it and the whole project was dropped.

things unknown in the Primitive times, these things at this time a day, together with their giving Presbyterian Orders openly to many with design to perpetuate the Schism, may justly make us stand our ground, till they who have neither Gospel nor Antiquity, neither Law nor reason of their side come some more paces toward us: My Lord, I should not presume to write this if it were only my own sense, but it is the agreeing sentiment of all the members of this our Northern Convocation w^{ch} I have met with, and that I hope will excuse this freedom. because it is convenient your L^{sp} should know how affairs go here: I have sent M^r Lane the interest due upon the bond at Lammas last, as he will (no doubt) inform y^r L^{sp}, and as it becomes due will punctually pay future interest as soon as I can return it, till I shall pay in the principall which if God grant us peace maybe I hope within a yeer or two: I shall only beg y^r L^{sp}s favour toward M^r Heald the subdean of your Church of Chichester, who is my friend. and as I beleive a hopefull and ingenious man, with my hourly prayers for your L^{sp}s health and request of your blessing I take my leave and remain

My Lord

Your most affectionate servant

Tho: Comber.

141. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY

MADAM

Nov: 30th 1689¹

Your condition of a widow and your grave and prudent letters have made me form to myself a wrong idea of your Ladyship whom I could not imagine to be on this side fifty so much as I find by your last you are on this side thirty. And M^r Lamplugh² son to our Arch Bishop who gave me an excellent character of your Ladyship confirms me in the same opinion which to me is a great addition to your extraordinary Qualifications, it being rare to find any in this vain Age who mind anything but dresse and divertisements till they have past those years: And as I believe your afflictions have contributed to this improvement so I hope you will not call them evill,

¹ The copyist gives 1687, but it is undoubtedly 1689.

² Thomas Lamplugh (1661-1703), the only survivor of his five children when the Archbishop died in 1691.

which have made you better : you may accuse yourself perhaps for some few things that are amisse, but your Ladyships friends and your Actions show that the good doth preponderate : you complain of coldness and indifferency in holy dutys but your sense of it and trouble for it shows it is not great nor dangerous and argues that you strive against that, which is never fatal but to those who never perceive it : And I must observe that your Ladyship is not the only person who began early to be religious who hath occasion to complain of this unhappinesse, there are two others who are best known to me of any in the world that being piously brought up from their infancy found greater warmth and vigour in all religious offices then now they are acquainted with : And I have been apt to conjecture that this may in a great measure be ascribed to naturall causes, for generally our affections are more active in the beginning of our youth, and when we first apply ourselves to anything, yet we may go on as steaddily in the latter part of our journey as we did in the former though we walk not with the same vivacity. Therefore Dear Madam do not be too much dejected in your apprehensions for this nor be severe in confusing your self for it, because if you go on in doing your duty even under these discouragements God will accept and reward you : Tis true you want much of the sensible pleasure you have had in holy offices which really is afflicting to those who have been acquainted with it. But you want none of the reall advantages of your piety provided you continue still desirous to please God and affraid to offend him, if you valew his love and fear his Anger. abstain from wilfull violation of his laws, and embrace all opportunities of well-doing, your condition to Godward is as safe though not so pleasant to your self as once it was : and your Ladyship must beware that too ill an opinion of your estate do not make it really worse by cherishing those very discouraging fears which you think the effect, but are the cause of your coldnesse in holy dutys. And I have sometimes cured myself when I found my self stupid and inapprehensive in my confessions, by meditating a while on God's infinite mercy which hath rendered my heart and mooved my affections more than all the terrors of the law could do : I will adde but one remark more which is that God is the best of Masters, and will not judge of those who are faithfull servants in the main, by the warmth but the sincerity of their Devotions, and by the effects which

those offices have upon our conversation rather than the impression they make on our affections. So that to avoyd all known sin and exercise ourselves in all acts of piety and vertue is the end of all the instituted part of religion, and if we go not back in these, we may be sure God loves us and we are safe.

Madam, I received your Ladyships liberall charity and have dispensed it to 2 poor scholars and at Cambridge who are very pious and hopefull and to two Ministers widows in my neighbourhood the two first had but £5 the other as much between them. They know not the name of their Benefactresse, but are under a promise to pray for you as may appear by one Acquittance which I send your Ladyship as a pattern of what I do with respect to the . . . I hope your Ladyship will reap the benefit of their prayers as they do of your charity, by which you have also obliged

Madam

your Ladyships etc.

142. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Stone. Feb. 10th 168⁹/₉₀.

HONRD S^r

Tho' I am very sensible that my very letters need an Apology perhaps more than my silence, yet I cannot but think I have been guilty of what looks like rudeness, and ingratitude, in not paying you till now, my just tribute of thanks for the extraordinary favors of your last: and therefore Sir I beg you would give me leave to tell you that nothing but a two months illness by the uneasinesses of a Rheumatism (which has not yet quite left me) should have made me omitted what was so much my duty to pay. Dear Sir, would you did know what sentiments I have of the mighty kindness of your letters! tis impossible for me to tell you the satisfaction I take in them and tho' I am certain your own abundant Charity joyn'd with Mr Lamplugh's too favorable Character, has betrayed you into a much better opinion of me than I deserve yet forgive me Sir if I wish you may be still mistaken that I may not loose that Blessing of hearing from you. Sir the return you have made me to my complaints, is much to my satisfaction but yet could I ever be so Happy as to discour you, you would not pass so mild a censure on me; My

coldness and indifference in Holy dutys would not be so dangerous, as now is, did it not proceed Sir from a wors cause than what you have mention'd, and tho' I believe sensible Comforts in Religion are the greatest Satisfactions this side Heaven, yet I could be contented without them for I never deserved them, besides Sir, I too well know such a novice as I, may be imposed on, and call passion and a brisk elevated fancy by that name and I dread to be deceived in maters of this nature and therefore I could suffer even what I complain of could I but think I were acceptable to God; but Alas! Sir the little improvement I have made of my afflictions, but above all my frequent relapses after so many resolutions, and solemn vows, has brought all this on me, I made my condition wors than can be express'd. I am enter'd on a subject on which I could scribble to you whole sheets, but I have already exceeded the bounds of a letter; if not of your patience. Ten thousands thanks to you Dear Sir for your kind, and carefull dispensing which was return'd you: if you have any occasion for more, I hope you will at all times freely comand Dear Sir

your most faithfull, and most
infinitely oblig'd humble servant

M. Cary.

it would be too much to presume to offer my duty to the Archbishop, but I beg you Sir, to give my humble service to M^r Lamplugh.

This

Forwd

To the much Honrd
and Rev^d D^r Comber
at his house in the
City of York

Yorkshire

post p^d by y^e way of London.

143. LADY MARTHA CARY TO T.C.

Stone, Nov: 22^d, 90

SIR

It is now above 13 months since that I gave you the trouble of a Long letter¹ in return to an obliging one of yours which bore date

¹ She had forgotten her letter dated February 10th.

Nov. 30. 89. I have sumtymes fancy'd Sir, that you never rec'd it, but my more frequent thoughts are that the Length and Complaints of it tyred you, and forc'd your silence, this I confess tho my own fault has made me uneasy and I had no way to expiate the Crime but by forbearing the repeating it: and yet Sir I must Confess I have often desir'd to be Trespassing again, and by this you will find any small affaire will serve for a pretence once more to exercise your patience. Sir, you were so good as to give your self the trouble of disposing formerly a small Charity of mine, and I presume I may now be in a Condition to return you more. Circumstances being this, Sir I did some while since oblige my self on some Considerations to bestow £10 in the beautifying the Chancell of a Church near me, but some things have since happen'd which will not permit me to lay it out that way. The reasons are too long to write if at least Sir you think anything is powerfull enough to dispense with the obligation but this Sir, I refer to your judgment if I cannot be excus'd I will do it still, but if the same sum dispos'd another way will be the fulfilling my promise I beg leave to return it you by M^r Clavell with no other . . . but the old one, that none may know who is . . . and how to lay it out D^r Comber best knows. Sir I will be wholly guided by your Answer to this for in what so ever the mony is layd out, I had much rather have it done at a distance than near home. I hope Sir, this will at least procure your pardon for this new trouble and I have to assure you I am too sensible of all your favour, ever to own any other character than that Sir, of your very much obliged Humble

servant

M. Cary.

This

Forward

To the Honrd and

Rev D^r Comber

at his house in

y^e Citty of York

Yorkshire

post p^d 3^d

to London

by way of London.

144. THE REV. JOHN MAPLETOFT TO T.C.

London. Jan 10th, '90.

REVEREND SIR.

You being engaged, as I hear, in a design of getting an excellent organ,¹ I was desired to recommend to you M^r Harris,² who made ours at St Laurence,³ which was most highly approved of by Dr Blow⁴ Mr Purcell⁵ and Sg^r Baptista,⁶ a great virtuoso of Italy. I made him no compliment I think, when I told him I would recommend to you for your sake, at least as much as for his own. We are all in these parts much at your service: none more than, Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate brother &c.

Jo. Mapletoft

For the very Reverend

D^r Comber at his
house in York.

145. DR. BEVERIDGE TO T.C.

Jan 14. 90.

REV^d S^a

Soon after I had received your first papers I procured one of the Pamphlets written against your History of liturgies, by S. B.⁷ a minister, as I understand, in Dorsetshire and first read it over all

¹ The recommendation was too late. The Chapter had arranged with Father Smith.

² Rhenatus Harris (?1640-?1715), a famous organ-builder. He built organs for Trinity College, Cambridge, and nine cathedrals. Dr. John Wallis spoke well of him to Pepys. (*Correspondence of Samuel Pepys*, ed. J. R. Tanner 1926, I, 155, 165.)

³ St. Laurence, Jewry.

⁴ John Blow 1648-1708. Doctor of Music. Organist successively of Westminster Abbey, the Chapel Royal and St. Paul's.

⁵ Henry Purcell 1658-95. The greatest English composer of the seventeenth century. Organist Westminster Abbey 1680, and Chapel Royal 1682; composed operas, masques, songs and chamber music.

⁶ Giovanni Baptista Draghi. Composer and musician in the service of Queen Catherine. With Matthew Lock composed music for Shadwell's opera, *Psyche*. Pepys (*Diary*, February 12th 1666) says he had composed in Italian a play for the opera.

⁷ Samuel Bold. See Vol. I, p. 54.

by itself, that I might the better see into the drift and design of it, and into his way of arguing; which is so shuffling and fallacious, that it often puts me in mind of the great power that malice, envy and prejudice have upon the minds of men. Howsoever this did not discourage me from fulfilling your desire in comparing it with your answer to it: which I have done, paragraph by paragraph. And now, although I did not think so weak and trifling an adversary could deserve to be encountered by you, yet I am glad he hath entred the lists, and so hath given you occasion, to cleer and fortify your arguments against the assaults which others of his stamp might presume to make upon them. In short, I think you have sufficiently answered or evaded all his cavills (for I can call them by no other name) and have done the church great service in this, as well as your other labours. I have but just finished the whole this evening, and therefore have not seen M^r Clavel since, but intend, God willing, to speak to him tomorrow, and to advise him, if you think well of it to print it in the same volume, paper, and letter, with the two parts of your Scholasticall history of liturgies, that so upon occasion it may be bound up with them. Almighty God continue to bless and prosper your labours to his glory and his Church's good which is the hearty prayer of

your most affectionate friend
and Brother
Will: Beveridge

Lond. Jan 14
1690.

146. T.C. TO LADY MARTHA CARY

April 22nd 91.

DEAR MADAM

Since I daily remember your Ladyship in my prayers you will easily believe it was extraordinary businesse (which I have of late been loaded with) and not forgetfulness that prevented my return to your last. And being in prospect of a London journey where I hope to inform myself of your circumstances I deferred the more willingly that I might write more pertinently to your present condition, of

which your own you hath now given me a full but doleful account, and truly I am much affected with that variety of troubles of body and mind wherewith it pleased God to exercise you yet cannot but hope that your gracious Father who lays these afflictions on will give you strength to bear them and make them work together for your spirituall good. And I doubt not but you are raised up from that late dangerous weaknesse as well to receive as to do more good in this world: You have now had a great instance of the goodnesse and mercy of God and Methinks experience should (as our Apostle speaks) produce hope and dispel those clouds which have arisen from misgiving fears of his favour to you, who loves those who little regard him, and therefore cannot but have a more tender regard to such as passionately desire and unweariedly endeavour after his loving-kindnesse. I know these fears are very uneasy and wish it may please God to remove them but while they oppresse the party who suffers under them, they are assurance to better and more impartiall judges who stand by, That such have a sincere love to him whom they are so fearfull to offend, and a hearty desire to serve him acceptably, since they are so sorry they can serve him no better, and if wise and good men judge thus He that sees the hearts of such contrite ones must passe a kinder sentence upon their actions than they do upon their own: so that were it not so grievous to endure this condition it is rather uneasy than unsafe and the end of such is always peace, for he who is to judge will be infinitely more mercifull to them in the end than they have been to themselves in the way to him. But Madam as your health returns and bodily strength increases, the melancholy (which was in great measure the effect of your late weaknesse) will I hope remooove And I heartily pray you may have a more pleasant scene next to be assured of which from your own hand would turn my prayers into praises and give me a share in the comfort of your restauration. I intend to be at London on May Day and shall stay about three weeks and though I doubt it will not be my good fortune to see your Ladyship there, yet any friend of yours who can give me a good Account of your Ladyships recovery will be extremely welcome to me. I suppose I need not advise to use some good medecines to carry off the dregs of that distemper which usually taints the blood. We have a Spaw in Yorkshire which is very much famed for remooving the relicks of fevers small pox, measles

&c and is one of the best remedys against the Hypochondriach (especially in your sex) that I have ever known. I am sorry it is so far from you that it can neither be conveyed to you nor can your Ladyship come to it but probably your own Country may afford remedys of equal virtue, in the use of which I wish you succeſſe and remain &c.

147. THE REV. CONSTANTINE JESSOP TO T.C.

May 11. 91

REVEREND M^r DEAN

I fear I come the last of our societie to congratulate your happy promotion to the Deanerie of Durham. May you long be an honour to that Church in particular as you have been to the church in generall. I lately heard that I am already obliged to you for promising me a place in your favour which makes me the sorer that I cannot show my gratitude in the first instance but as you have heard of my late dangerous illness soe I beg leave to assure you that the remaining effects are such that a journey to Durham¹ soe soon as M^r Subdean mentions for your instalment would be (in all probability) of most dangerous consequences to me I presume M^r Dean of Lincoln² will not fail being at Durham at the time set for your enstalment it being his constant time and his residence as I suppose requiring it and M^r Dean of Carlisle³ having promised to stay, I hope my dispensation in so necessarie a case will be the more favourably allowed at this time. I hope my brethren and particularly M^r Subdean⁴ will attest my constant readinesse to come down for the service of the church upon all exigencies ever since I have been of the body and as it would be rashnesse to engage to doe what at present I have not hopes to performe soe I hope you will not impute this not giving assurance of coming to any backwardnesse but wholly

¹ He was Rector of Brington in Northants and Prebendary of the fifth Stall.

² Dr. Brevint was Prebendary of the tenth Stall.

³ William Graham, D.D., son of Sir George Graham of Netherby. Prebendary of the first Stall at Durham.

⁴ The Sub-dean in 1691 was Richard Knightley, A.M. Prebendary of the sixth Stall July 1675 and the seventh Stall November 1675.

to necessitie at all other times and in all other thinges I hope to approve my selfe

Reverend M^r Deane
Your most obedient
humble servant
C : Jessop

Brington May 11. 91.

148. THE REV JOHN DENTON TO T.C.

May 18, '91

DEAR SIR

I just now received yours of the 14th instant with your resignation of Stonegrave inclosed, for which I do (as I have *great reason*) return you my *heartly thanks*, and shall be ready in anything wherein I may be serviceable to you, to testify my gratitude for that favour. Since you advise me to deferr taking out the seals till you come down, I am very inclinable also to deferr shewing your resignation to the Dean and Chapter, and shall keep it private till your return, unless in your next you advise me to the contrary. I am very glad (since you are not what I could rather have desired. A.B.)¹ that you are confirmed Dean of Durham, and heartily wish you much comfort of the place. I desire you will not forget (before you leave London) to mention my son² to our new Archbishop. If it be deferred till he com down, there may be danger that som other may put in before him. I have sent your wife what money I have got up here, viz 12^{li}, but have not received anything either from your tennants of Thornton or Bargh, though I have prest them for it. I intend either to go or send again to them tomorrow. M^{rs} Chancelor,³ as they say, had the conduct of the late Archbishop's

¹ Archbishop.

² Tillotson was consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury on 31st May 1691, John Sharp, Archbishop of York 5th July 1691. The latter is meant though not yet consecrated. John Denton had two sons, John, the elder of the two, and Robert, born January 11th 1675-6. Robert afterwards became Rector of Stonegrave 1700-1747. He was B.A. St. Catherine's, Cambridge; Deacon 1699; Priest 1700.

³ Dr. Henry Watkinson, Chancellor of York 1686-1711, married Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan Jennings of Ripon, widow of Christopher Hodgson of Newhall, Yorkshire.

funerall, which was performed so very sneakingly that she is very much condemned for her managery, and his relations for being guided by her. Your mother Thornton is now at Yorke and hath been ever since last Tuesday. Sir, I purpose, God willing, to wait on you as soon as you com to Yorke, whither I pray God send you a good journey. Pray give my most humble service to the Archbishop of Canterbury. I am, Sir,

your very much obliged servant

Jo. Denton.

Newton, May 18, '91.

To the Reverend D^r Thomas Comber, Dean of Durham.

To be left with M^r Robert Clavil, at the Peacock

in St. Paul's Church-yard

London.

149. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY¹

MY LORD.

The death of our great ArchBishop was so sudden it surprized me, and his kindnesse to me makes me really concerned at it, Tis true I cannot misse any friend while God preserves your Grace, but his Prudence and affection to the Government may be a great losse to his Majesty now at the meeting of a Parliament where his interest was great in a busy and troublesome party which he helpt to moderate: I know nothing of the interest of State as to a Successor, but write to one who understands that perfectly. But as to the church interest give me leave to offer a few hints. The late Arch Bishop was to wise to love the Dissenters Principles, but his education gave him an affection for their persons, and his notion of moderation hath inclined preferment chiefly to men of Latitude which hath disgusted many that are hearty for the establishment, and afforded the non-jurors a pretence for their obstinacy on pretence of alterations designed in the church, I think this was a Calumny both as to this great Prelate and the King: but I know it hath been feared by some

¹ This letter is undated. Raine indexed it as addressed to the Archbishop of York, but it is obviously Canterbury. It must have been written before the *congé d'élire* came to York, for John Denton knew of the appointment on the 18th of May. It was therefore before Tillotson's consecration on 31st May, but was probably written not long before.

and believed by others of the Churches friends, and hath bred a coldness and indifferancy as to the Government : in many that would otherwise more heartily serve it : This Party did ever and do esteem your Grace as their main Patron, and are very considerable for their number, power and integrity : Now your Grace will certainly engage all these to serve his Majesty affectionately and confirm their good opinion of your Grace, if you can bring my Lord of London into this vacancy. I need not urge his sufferings under the late government : his merit to this nor his excellent Qualif[ications] all which none knows or valews more then your Grace. The interest which kept his Lordship from both Cant and Y : is now removed, and it seems fit for your Grace; now to interpose with the King : to win his favour, and by this promotion to encourage the friends of the establishment, I may adde that D^r Stillingfleet¹ is the fittest man in the W[orld] for London, and if your Grace would have a good governable Bishop of Worcester I would reccommend D^r John Mountague² a son of the late Earl of Sandwich who is nobly born, related to many of the Noblesse, and a lover of this Government and withall a very good Man : And by the King's preferring him he may get 2 very good preferments, The Mastership of Trinity Colledge, the best of our Prebends : worth one 600 and the other 500 per Annum besides a place within 1 mile of Durham of about £300 per Annum called Mastership of Sherburn Hospital, where is a very fine summer retirement for my family and it is the one and only thing in the world I am capable of wishing : But this only relates to my private interest, therefore however this go, I beg of your Grace not to slip the opportunity for the other being an Opportunity to make his Majesty and your Grace very many friends and to serve the best Church in the World. I beg 1000 pardons for my presumption and am

My Lord.

Pray keep the Bishop of Sal³ [isbury]
where he is, however.

¹ Stillingfleet was consecrated Bishop of Worcester 13th October 1689 and held the see till 1699.

² Comber's advice about Montagu was not taken and Montagu held the offices mentioned until his death in 1728, adding to them the Deanery of Durham in 1699. So Comber never obtained the Mastership of Sherburn Hospital.

³ Gilbert Burnet became Bishop of Salisbury in 1689 and held the see until his death in 1715.

150. JOHN BURTON TO T.C.

York, May 18. 1691

DEAR BROTHER,

I received yours and another from my son¹ the last post, wherein he gives me an account of his election to Oxford, and how much you had befriended him in the business, as also M^r Fairfax and Alderman Thompson's kindnes to him : for which I return you many thanks. The *conge d'elire*² (as you intimated) came on Thursday night, which was sooner than we expected, but the Chapter has been carefull to dispatch it with all possible speed : tho' M^r Chancellor and M^r Squire³ were both out of town, which made it more difficult. As for the organ I know not how it goes on, but I think there is no doubt of M^r Lamplugh performing what he has undertaken, and the pipes I suppose will serve in either place. I acquainted M^r Dean with your intention of finishing the remainder of your Residence, which he and all of us shall be pleased with, and wish that when you part with the Praecentorship it may be given to one who may prove usefull to this poor Church, and be carefull to manage the Quire, which otherwise in a short time will be wholly neglected. I presume you have heard how the singing-men behaved themselves at my Lord Archbishop's funerals (such a piece of insolency as never was committed!) I think care will be taken to punish them according to their demerits. The petition against the D of N⁴ I hope will bring him to a speedy compliance.

Your good mother has been here some dayes, and looks better on't, and is more cheerful than I have seen her these many years. Pray give my humble service to M^r Fairfax⁵ and Alderman Thomp-

¹ Nicholas Burton, of whom we shall hear later.

² The *congé d'élire* for the election of Archbishop John Sharp.

³ Robert Squire. Registrar. See Vol. I, p. 59.

⁴ John Sharp. D.D. Christ's, Cambridge; Rector of St. Giles-in-the-Fields 1675; Dean of Norwich 1681; Archbishop Elect of York. He was consecrated 5th July 1691.

⁵ Mr. Fairfax. This may be (1) Henry Fairfax of Toulston, brother of Thomas, fifth Lord Fairfax. He was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1691. Or it may refer to (2) Barwick Fairfax, son of Henry, fourth Lord Fairfax by Frances, daughter of Sir R. Barwick. Or it may be (3) Brian Fairfax, the younger son of Brian Fairfax. Brian was a Commissioner of Customs, a friend of Thoresby and an antiquary. He died in 1748, but he was corresponding with Thoresby in the early nineties. On the whole the first is the more probable.

son¹ when you see them, and respects to your brother Thornton. I am just now called away to Chapter to the election, that the instruments may be dispatched (if possible) by this post: and so have not time to ad further but that I am

Your very much obliged friend and brother

John Burton

These. For the Reverend D^r Comber
at M Clavels on St Paul's Church yard
London.

151. T.C. TO THE CHAPTER OF DURHAM

A Copy of my Answer

May 19th 1691.

MY REV: BRETHREN

The honour you have done me by your kind congratulation shall oblige my endeavours to deserve the good opinion you are pleased to have of me, by serving you and that noble Church to which I am preferred by their Majestys [favour?]. And nothing renders that eminent station more acceptable to me then your satisfaction in the choice, I am sure I shall never want a hearty zeal to be usefull in my station, and I promise myself many opportunities to do good by the prudent advice and unanimous assistance of so worthy a society, wherein I shall labour to preserve and encrease that naturall affection which your letter intimates I shall find among you. I design to wait upon you Jun 10th and have fixed the 11th for my installation at which your presence will be requisite, and then I shall have opportunity to expresse how sincerely I am

Gentlemen

Your affectionate brother and humble servant

T.C.

¹ Alderman Edward Thompson of York, brother to Sir Henry Thompson, was Lord Mayor of York in 1682-3. There were evil reports about his disloyalty (it was the time of the Rye House Plot), and Sir Thomas Slingsby was anxious to put him and four other aldermen out of the Corporation. His real reason for his enmity was that they had supported Reresby's election to Parliament. During Monmouth's rebellion four of them (including Thompson) were sent as prisoners to Hull. They were all turned out of the Corporation in May 1685, by order of the King in Council. Thompson was restored in 1688 and elected M.P. for York. Reresby described him as a "close sensible fellow." (*Memoirs of Sir John Reresby*, 1936, p. 580.)

152. CANON ADAMS TO T.C.

Lincoln-college. Oxford

May 23. 1691

SIR

Amongst your many congratulations, I presume you have receiv'd from Durham, I hope I am not the last of all my Brethren in paying my most humble Duty and Service to you, as our most worthy Dean : which I had done long since, had I been so happy as to have known where you lodged in London.

I hope there will be no occasion for my going down to Durham,¹ 'till my time of Residence which is in September next. In the mean time, I humbly crave your leave of absence and remain

Sir

Your most obedient

Humble servant

J Fitzherbert Adams

153. THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK TO T.C.

July 9, '91

GOOD M^r DEAN

I have lately received two or three letters from you concerning other people. I take all your recommendations kindly, but I dare say you never design to recommend so as not to leave me at liberty both to satisfy my own judgment and my former obligations.

The thing you proposed to me for your brother Thornton is not like to happen; D^r Palmer² not being likely to succeed into M^r

¹ FitzHerbert Adams was Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, from 1685-1719. From 1685-1695 he held the sixth stall at Durham. He exchanged it for the tenth stall in 1695 and that for the eleventh in 1711. He was Rector of Washington and also of Stanhope, both in the County of Durham.

² Charles Palmer, D.D., son of Sir William Palmer, Kt., of the Hill, Bedfordshire. He was made Canon of York February 1688-9; Canon of Southwell 25th September 1690; Rector of Kirkby in Cleveland 1691-2; Long Marston 1694. He married Anne, daughter of Sir Stephen Thompson, Kt., of Kirkby Hall. Palmer died 17th January 1704-5 and was buried in the Minster at York.

Lovelands¹ prebend, that being the only preferment in my gift that I have given away before it falls. Mr Proctor's affair² I will determine nothing about till after the lapse (if there be one) and then he stands as fair any one. Mr Adams³ is very importunate for the next prebend at Southwell, and he brought to me my Lord President's letter as well as yours to recommend him, but I have given him no encouragement to expect it, since if the first vacancy happen by the death of the minister of Newark,⁴ I shall think my self obliged to let the prebend go with that vicarage, if I like the man. If it do not so happen, my Lord Archbishop of Canterbury has so earnestly recommended a relation of his that lives in that country that it will be hard to deny him.

It is yet doubtful whether Dr Gale⁵ will succeed in your precentorship, the place being so inconvenient for him. If he will wave it and trust to the Queen's favour in some other preferment it is probable it will be given to Dr Fall,⁶ the Principall of Glasgow in Scotland, it being look'd upon as a service to the King at this juncture to have him so preferred. I have by this post sent down to the Chancellor the mandat for my installation, and my letters of proxy. In those letters your name is the first, and it was put in with your own leave and consent. I will not press you to be installed for me, not knowing what reasons you may have against it. But if you think fit to do me that favour I shall take it very kindly. And I do here, as in the presence of God, religiously take upon my self the performance of all those oaths which you (if you think fit to be my proctor) or any one else shall swear in my name, as of duty required to be sworn at my installation

¹ Joseph Loveland. Caius, Cambridge. Scholar. B.A. 1622-3; M.A. 1626; B.D. 1634; Fellow 1626-44; Priest 1629; Rector of Wimpole, Cambridgeshire, 1642, Ejected; Preb. of Norwich 1660-95; of Wetwang in Yorkshire 1670-94. Died 1695.

² Nicholas Procter. Clerk of the Vestry, York Minster, 1681-91. On 22nd December 1691 he was suspended for some misconduct. (See Letter, December 21st 1691.) He lived for years at Bedminster, near Bristol. His will dated 16th February 1707-8 divided his property amongst his three sisters. Some years later he returned to York, and on 2nd February 1717-8 was married in the minster to Mrs. Mildred Rhodes, widow. He had a small estate at Knapton in the Ainsty. He was buried in the minster 17th February 1724.

³ Probably FitzHerbert Adams (see previous letter).

⁴ The Incumbent of Newark since 1668 was Henry Smith, Canon of Southwell. He remained there till 1702 when he was succeeded by Eli Stansfield.

⁵ Dr. Thomas Gale. See Vol. I, p. 62.

⁶ Dr. James Fall. See Vol. I, p. 57. There is an account of him in the *Yorksh. Arch. Journal*, I, 275. He died in 1711.

I beg my humble service to M^{rs} Comber, I am, Sir
 your most affectionate friend and servant
 J. Ebor.

July 9th 1691.

These to the Reverend D^r Comber
 Dean of Durham, at his house
 in York.

154. PETER HEALD TO T.C.

Tunbridge Wells. July 24th 1691.

REVEREND SIR

By this tyme I hope you have safely return'd from Durham; I remember I was speaking to you at London to desire your direction in the choice and method of reading Bookes; which I humbly now desire of you, being, I hope, more at leisure, as for by-Studys, which are besides my Profession; I have as many of them, as I need. But as for Divinity and History Bookes, I never think I have Enough, and yet may have more than Enough, for in abundance of them, there is much Rubbish and Stuff; a great deal to be rejected; and in some a man loses his tyme in reading Now to prevent this, the best way as I think is to be well instructed in the Choyce of the Best Bookes. I remember a saying, which has often forc'd itself upon my mind non refert quam multos sed quam bonos libros habes. My humble request to you is to direct me to the best and Choycest Bookes in Divinity and History, which are for my purpose: which kindness I shall ever remember thankfully. I am now at Tunbridge Wells with M^r Provost of Eton¹ (who presents his service to you) but shall return to Chichester the next week. the Princess of Denmark is here; and is indeed an Example to every Body in her constancy and devotion at Prayers in the chapell here, where every day many hundreds are assembled. this is one of the

¹ Zachary Cradock, D.D., who had been a Fellow of Queens', Cambridge, and from 1671 a Fellow of Eton, was Provost of Eton from 24th February 1680-1 until his death September 1695. He was also a Canon of Chichester from 1669-70 and a Chaplain to Charles II.

pleasantest places, that ever I was in in all my life. my humble service to your good Lady

I am, Sir, your most Humble and

Obedient Servant

Peter Heald.

pray, Sir, remember my duty to my Mother : and love to Sister, and let them know, I am, God be praised, very well.

For the Reverend

Comber Dean of

at his house nigh

in

155. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

DEAR SIR

I have always found my selfe obligd by you and good M^{rs} Comber ever since I had the happinesse to be known to you both. I take it exceeding kindly that you desire me to be near you which I should desire above any preferment in England. Since I got home to Aynho I have consulted my dear Cosen Betty who does not like to be transplanted into the North, so farr from her mother, though the advantage were very great. Farewell all hopes of exchanging Parsonages. I am now at London (but return home tomorrow) and have waited on the Arch Bishop of York and the Bishop of Worcester¹ to thank them for their kind wishes and endeavours to get me into the Church of York.

The ArchBishop is very desirous and zealous for it, if it could be. I acquainted both him and the Bishop of Worcester with the probability of some vacancy likely to be in your church in a little time, they both heartily wishd I might succeed. The ArchBishop promised to use his best interest, and both told me they thought it must be obtained by the interest of some whom your Bishop feared at the meeting of the parliament. some think that the D of B . . . n, Earl of Maclesfield. E of Warr . . . ton,² or such like may have got a promise of him for the next vacancys : but I am withall told that

¹ The Bishop of Worcester at this time was Stillingfleet.

² Charles Paulet, first Duke of Bolton, died 1699. Gerald Charles, first Earl of Macclesfield, died 1694. Henry Booth, first Earl of Warrington, died 1694.

your Bishop will scarce deny the ABC¹ if he should interest him but tis not for my Lord A B C to ask and be denyd, nor to write to him. I am advisd that if he come to Durham, while you are there to desire you to sound him whether he has promised any one or no; and whether if my Lord of Canterbury and York should desire his favour to me he would be pleasd to grant it, then I beleive it might be obtained. I verily beleive all will joyn in the busynesse.

Your Bishop is gon down, whether to Durham or no I cannot tell. If I were so happy to have you my sollicitor at his elbow, I should not despise of successe which is desird more upon the account of my dear wife (who I beleive will be very acceptable to good M^{rs} Comber) than any . . . of my own but whether I speed or no, I am ever

M^r Dean

Your most obligd humble servant

M H.

London.

Aug. 6. 91

one D^r F² an Irishman is to be Precentor and D^r Gale³
expects . . .

For the Reverend

D^r Comber

Dean of Durham

at

York.

156. THE REV. J. FALL TO T.C.

London. Aug: 29th

1692. [1691]

REVEREND SIR

I have the favour of yours of the 25th I had given it a return last post but that I was out of town, you should have had account of my preferment sooner than from any body else, if I had thought it decent to write of an affair of that nature before it was

¹ Archbishop of Canterbury.

² James Fall (as he came from Glasgow he is more probably Scottish) who succeeded Comber in the Precentorship at York.

³ Dr. Thomas Gale had been High Master of St. Paul's School since 1672. Whatever he may have expected, he remained there till he was made Dean of York in 1697.

fully concluded, but now I have reason to tell you that (upon your Resignation)¹ I am to be your Successor. this honour was neither in my prospect, nor had I any accession to the obtaining it by endeavours of my own or my friends, it has flow'd meerly from My Lords of Canterbury and Yorks goodness and favour to me; it was concluded between them, And a nomination of me obtained from the King and Queen ere they thought it fit so much as to acquaint me with it this I have understood since, and it makes my obligations the greater to them. If I had been upon the manadgement of it my self, I would have presumed to desire your assistance as soon as any others, neither had it been proper in me to have done otherwise. So Dear Sir I do intreat you to put a more favourable Construction upon my Silence, than to Consider it the least Breach of the friendship you honour me with, or the want of Respect to you whose Learning and vertue I do so much vawew. I am resolved (by God's grace) to give my self wholly to the discharge of that trust which is to be committed to me, wherein your Instructions will both guide me, and be of Singular use. I will also give my personall attendance to it as long a tyme as either the statuts of the chapter or the Arch Bishop shall think fit or require me. The former station I held in my own Country² was of that nature which oblidged me to keep house, and I design to do the same at York, for this I must also beg your friendly advice, your Good example and Council being the model I intend to frame my self by.

I have not such a family as God has blessed you with (being a Batchler) so I think I shall not be able to fill your house, neither can I determine my self to take a house untill I be upon the place, which it is not proper for me to be, till I be Installed. But if you have any ordinary furniture which you intend to part with upon your Removeall to Durham you may be pleased to give an Inventor of it to my friend M^r Calhoun and upon his report of it to me, I will know what may be fit for me, I have little skill of those things my self, except what I have learned by my late losses³ in that kind.

¹ This letter must be wrongly dated. Comber was installed at Durham on June 15th 1691, though he did not resign the Precentorship till Martinmas of that year. When this letter was written he had not resigned. So the year must be 1691. Possibly the fault is of the copyist. Comber makes the figure 1 very like 2.

² Principal of the University of Glasgow.

³ During the "rabbling of the clergy" in Glasgow.

Dear Sir let me beg the Continuance of your favour and for a marke of it, make me acceptable to your friends. Tho I can not presume to make up their loss by your Leaving them, yet I will endeavour to the utmost of my power to merit their good will, but not desiring to be further troublesome at this distance I beg leave to assure you that I am most sincerely

Dear Sir

Your most faithfull and
most humble servant

Ja: Fall

For
The Reverend
D^r Comber
Dean of Durham
at York.

157. BRIAN FAIRFAX TO T.C.
Lambeth Dec 15. 1691

SIR

I am commanded by my Lord his Grace of Canterbury to write to you in these express words: That at last after long expectation he received your Letter which gave him as little satisfaction as if you had not writ at all. That he saw another from you to my Lord Falconberg on the same subject: That he acquainted the Queen with the contents of both: That her Majesty was extremely displeased to find such trifeling after so express a promise from you made by his Grace to her Majesty. That he was never more ashamd of any thing then of what he had done for you, and has nothing more to say in this matter but only to tell you, That the King and Queen expect you should immediately send up your resignation to the Arch Bishop of York, without any farther delay or conditions, which is all I have in command from his Grace to signify to you,¹ who am

Sir

Your very humble servant

For the Reverend
D^r Comber, Deane
of Durham
Durham.

Br. Fairfax²

¹ All this was because Comber had not immediately resigned the Precentorship. See Vol. I, pp. lvii, lviii.

² Dr. Brian Fairfax was the grandson of the first Lord Fairfax. He was a Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge. B.A. 1652; M.A. 1655. He was incorporated at

158. JOHN BURTON TO T.C.

York. Decem 21. 1691

Good M^r DEAN.

I was glad to hear of your good health both from your letter and M^{rs} Thornton, who gave us a visit, as did sister Comber, tho' I did not see her : M^r Mitford,¹ I perceive, has writ to M^r Stainforth² to supply his courses, which I am not displeased at. As for D^r Sanchy's³ I shall take care of them if he think fit. I have had some trouble this Advent to get the courses supply'd, in regard that D^r I⁴ and M^r St : side with the Vicars⁵ and neither of them would come up. They are so far from doing it themselves that they discourage others. But I hope to go through with it, and that to the great satisfaction of all persons besides themselves and the Vicar. They have likewise started another cavill about the 30 of January,⁶ and have no mind to submit to the Table,⁷ alledging that it is other-

Oxford in 1663 and D.C.L., Oxford, in 1677. Entered Gray's Inn 1654; Barrister 1661; Ancient 1680. In 1658 he went to France with the Earl of Kildare and in 1659 was sent on a mission to Monk, then in Scotland. At first private secretary to his cousin, Lord Fairfax, then equerry to Charles II, 1670-85, and to William III, 1689-94. He was also secretary to Archbishop Tillotson till 1694, when he returned into private life and devoted himself to literary work. He died in 1711.

¹ Prebendary James Mitford. See Vol. I, p. 60.

² Prebendary William Stainforth. See Vol. I, p. 20.

³ Clement Sankey or Zanchy. Magdalene Coll., Cambridge. B.A. 1651-2; M.A. 1655; D.D. 1668; Fellow 1654; Rector of St. Clement's, Eastcheap, 1666-1707; of Colne Engaine, Essex; of Settrington 1667; Preb. of South Newbald, York, 1669-1707; Rector of Whitchurch, Salop, 1684. Died 1707. Pepys made frequent allusions to him in his *Diary*.

⁴ Dr. Henry James. See Vol. I, p. 53.

⁵ Originally each canon of the minster had a vicar and the chamberlain of the vicars was bound to be present at services to mark their absences. By Holgate's Statutes 1552 there were to be as many vicars choral as the lands belonging to the Bedern could maintain. Archbishop Frewen in 1662 ordered a special chest for the receipt of the money which came in for their support. Their attendance in 1691 was very slack.

⁶ The commemoration of the execution of Charles I.

⁷ By the Injunctions of Archbishop Holgate in 1552, a table was appointed of the days on which each prebendary had to preach. Archbishop Dolben issued a fresh set of Injunctions in 1685, based on Articles of Enquiry which had been issued to the cathedral officials. The Articles have disappeared, but some of the replies exist. One, an answer to the twenty-eighth enquiry, runs: "That we, the Dean, Dr. Comber the precentor, Mr. Conyers and Mr. Stainforth, never yet had the honour to receive any of Your Grace's predecessors' injunctions and so cannot give account how any of them have been observed." Archbishop Grindal in 1572 ordered that all persons having any dignity or prebend in the cathedral should yearly preach so

wise in the Injunctions. D^r I you know has but 2 courses and I 6, for the Dignitaries are always more burthened than others. But to let this passe till you come hither, for I have no minde to be run down and imposed upon. As for New Year's day, God willing, I shall supply it, and you may . . . my course on Septuagesima. M^r Dryden¹ is much where he was, protests being entred against him. Our new Vicar² was admitted when I was out of town, without the least notice or acquainting me therewith. We received our accounts last week, and your share is in M^r Squire's hand. There has been great muttering about the Organ. But all is in readines, I think, for M^r Smith to finish when he comes. As for Nic. Proctor his crime is so foull as nothing can be pleaded for him. I do very much pity his poor sisters. When you have fix'd your time of coming to York pray give me notice in a line or two, because I must go into the country for some dayes and therefore would forecast my busines so as not to be away when you are here. With mine and my wive's service and respects to your self, sister Comber, M^r Thornton, &c I am

Your very much obliged friend and brother

Joh. Burton

For the Reverend D^r Comber

Dean of Durham, at his house
in Durham.

many sermons within the minster as was appointed to them by a schedule, table, or note specially set forth for the purpose. Archbishop Dolben made some alterations in this "preaching table," taking in the feasts of St. Barnabas and the Conversion of St. Paul, as well as November 5th, January 30th, and May 29th, and ordered that the Dean and Chapter should provide a table in which these alterations had been made. If there were two residentiaries present they should preach on the 30th January in turn; if only one he should preach yearly on that date. (*The Statutes of the Cathedral Church of York*, 1900, pp. 100, 101.)

¹ Prebendary Jonathan Dryden. See Vol. I, p. 61.

² The new vicar choral was W. Stainforth the younger, admitted 27th August 1691. M.A. and Fellow of Queen's, Cambridge. Ordained deacon at Carlisle and priest at Durham in 1691. He was Rector of Simonburn, Northumberland, 1697-1723.

159. T.C. TO MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN?¹Durham. Decemb : 28th 1691

MY LORD

That goodnesse which disposed her Majesty so freely to expresse her resentments and the particulars of my Charge, will I perswade my self allow your Lordship once more to appear in behalf of my injured innocence. And first I was allowed to keep my place till Martinmas, and I had given orders to quit my Residence at York before I had any summons, and this is reckoned half the profits : As to the other half I neither received one penny of any profits due since, nor kept the bare Title any longer then till I had her Majesty's expresse Orders to resign, For I actually resigned it before Christmas and the Forms of Law will be all finished as soon as I can go to York, as I have acquainted our Arch Bishop a week ago, and this I hope will show my readynesse to obey her Majesty :

As to the odious Character of covetousnesse my Accusers could not have fixed on anything more contrary to my Nature, nor more easy for me to clear my self from. For it could be no proof of a covetous mind that I desired to keep a Title of which I got not one farthing : And I assure your Lordship I generously refused to accept 80^l for renewing a Lease belonging to that place, which is worth at least 120^l, because it had been an injury to the Church to take so much below the value. And this bargain hath depended four yeers and was pushed on afresh now when I was going to leave the place. But I have left it wholly to my Successor, who I am told, hath been bargaining before hand with my Tenant for 50^l or 60^l at most. But let him answer for the baseness of that Act, if he be guilty, tis enough he cleer me from a covetous disposition, that I would not wrong the Church for a good summe of ready mony offered when I really needed it, and borrowed : Besides all that know York can testify that my Hospitality and Charity exceeded any mans of my circumstances, I wish your Lordship would enquire of my Lord Fairfax,²

¹ This seems to be written to Danby, now Marquess of Carmarthen, Comber's great friend and patron, who was also a friend at Court. But see Letter of December 29th, n., which gives some ground for the suggestion that it may be to Lord Fauconberg.

² Thomas, Baron Fairfax of Cameron, was M.P. for Malton in 1685 and for the County of York 1689-1707.

Sir John Kay,¹ Sir William Robinson² or M^r Tancred³ all eminent Members of Parl: whether I did not keep up the character of a generous and Hospitable man at York. And since I came hither I have kept a better residence then hath been seen here this seven-year. I am now keeping a public Christmas and entertaining their Majestys officers come hither from Ireland, I have also now finished the Case of a new building at the Deanry which will cost me more than Dean Sudbury layd out on that house in twenty years: And to take away all suspicion of sordidnesse I began the world 23 year ago with 1000^l have been always well preferred, yet I declare I am not worth above 2000^l cleer now, to provide for my deer wife and four children which great truth is a better evidence of my liberality then my discretion. Finally as to the Book against pluralitys⁴ tis pure malice to Father it on me, who neither am the Author nor so much as know who is, nor did I ever see it in Manuscript or Print till above two Months after it was public, and I will forfeit half I am worth if any man can prove I had any hand in it. My pluralitys were a burden to me while my want of other preferment forced me to keep them, and I quitted that ungratefull Title the Day I was made Dean of Durham, and when single livings are made competency I shall freely vote against them. So that is not probable I should write to defend them, I assure your Lordship I always employed my Pen on better subjects and am now writing one Piece of Roman Forgerys and another for the present Government which I have more openly vindicated in Prints Sermons and Discourse and made more converts to it then any one man in the north, witnesse the great hatred of the Jacobites against me. And 'tis very unfortunate I should after all this fall under their Majestys displeasure by meer Calumnys as void of truth as they are of modesty and charity: Good my Lord fail not to represent this cleerly and speedily and you will ever oblige me to be their Majestys and your Lordships

most faithfull servant

Tho: Comber.

¹ Sir John Kay was M.P. for Yorkshire from 1685; ending with the Parliament which met in June 1705.

² Mr. (afterwards Sir) William Robinson was M.P. for Northallerton in the Parliaments of 1685 and 1688-9.

³ Christopher Tancred was M.P. for Aldborough in 1688-9.

⁴ Henry Wharton's *Defence of Pluralities* 1691.

160. T.C. TO THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN

Dec : 29 : 91.

MY LORD

When I consider how I have been represented to the Lord the Arch Bishop of York to divers other Bishops and to all my friends above by one that lately claimed the sole glory of my remooveall,¹ when I reflect upon the false storys which have been raised, the trifles that have been aggravated, and the most spitefull representations made of my most innocent Actions. When I call to mind the account given to my Lord of York that I had received 2000^l from this place before I had got 100^l out of this place to pay me for above 200^l expence : And when I adde to this a letter from . . . writ in contempt by a servant (in a stile never used since . . . ² presided in the Eccles : Commission) to Hector me out of my legall right and my reputation together : I cannot but believe there is a deeper cause of this sudden change then my keeping an unprofitable Title 6 weeks. And when I adde to all this the Queens observation that now (my advancement is to be thought a fault) your Honour is at once to take to the mistake of my promotion and all my pretended Miscarriages that follow it. My affection for your Lordship makes me suspect that party is aiming at a much higher Quarry than I : My Lord of London's disgrace after the highest services,³ merely for declaring

¹ Birch's *Life of Tillotson*, 1752, p. 393, has the following passage: "His Grace (i.e. Tillotson) was likewise instrumental in procuring the Deanery of Durham for Dr. Thomas Comber, with whom he had long lived in great friendship, and for whose learning and piety he had a high esteem. That Deanery being vacant in 1691, by the refusal of Dr. Dennis Granville, younger brother of John the first Earl of Bath, to take the oaths, the King was consulting with some of the leading men at Court to whom it should be given. The Marquess of Carmarthen, afterwards Duke of Leeds, and the Archbishop, were in the presence chamber, when the Earl of Fauconberg, who had been reduced from a wavering state to a firm adherence to Protestantism by the private discourse and writings of Dr. Comber, especially his *Advice to the Roman Catholics*, proposed that divine to them as a proper person for that preferment. Whereupon the Archbishop, being as much influenced by his regard for the Doctor, as the Marquess was connected with him by family, they immediately approved of Lord Fauconberg's proposal, and Dr. Comber being recommended to His Majesty was collated to the Deanery." Possibly then it was Fauconberg who was offended.

² Jeffreys presided in the Ecclesiastical Commission.

³ "It would have been natural to appoint Compton to the Primacy when Sancroft was deprived, but William had seen in Tillotson the simplicity and submissiveness which he desired." (W. H. Hutton, *Hist. of the English Church from Charles I to Anne*, p. 251.)

himself tender of establishments may well enough teach me patience : But for your own sake and for the Churches sake consider (My Lord) whether you are not wounded through my sides : The Clergy and Gentry of these parts look upon your Honour as our best Patron, they suspect a design of altering establishments under the plausible cover of reformation, and my private sentiments are that my loosing my interest is to mean a game for refined Politicians. But they cannot carry their point at a lesse price then disobliging the best part of the Nation, however they seem now to resolve to destroy or lessen all interests that can oppose this pious intrigue, but they will be baffled, for though one Gentleman saith he is ashamed of what hath been done for N : N :¹ most think anothers Promotion a juster reproach to some body. Burn this use all that is worth observing and go on to love your eternally obliged humble servant.

My services to the Church and Government have been such and shall be still that a short times experience will shame my enemys and vindicate all my true Friends.

161. T.C. TO THE REV. BRIAN FAIRFAX (?)

SIR

Yours was in so unusuall a stile that I was sure there was something worse beleived of me then my keeping an empty Title 2 months without prejudice to my Successor or advantage to my self and now her Majesty hath generously let me know the charge, which is that I was the Author of a Book in defence of Pluralitys. But I desire you to let his Grace know that I may as justly be said to have writ the Alcoran. I never saw one word of it in MS or print till it had been public 2 months and do not know who is the Author, nor heard of the design of all which I can bring evidence upon call if

¹ N.N. Compare the Anglican Catechism : " What is thy name ? " *Ans.* N. or M., really N. or N.N., i.e. *nomen* or *nomina*. Comber is referring to himself. It was not an uncommon device. Cf. *A Relation of a Conference about Religion*, London 1687, where it says that one of the disputants was " a person called N.N.," probably here " the last letters of the Christian and surname of John Leyburn." *A Few Plain Reasons why a Protestant of the Church of England should not turn Roman Catholic*, London 1688. The author, at the end of the postscript, subscribes himself N.N. There is no doubt that it was written by Barlow, Bishop of Lincoln, *A Sermon preached on the Feast of St. George* by N.N., 1688. (The author was Silvester Jenks.)

need be. Wherefore if this gave offence I hope his Grace will now return to his wonted kindnesse for me: As to the resignation I always intended it, and had I thought it would have been ill taken that I should make so modest a request as to desire my successor might be obliged to take care of that noble work I had begun, I had certainly resigned it on Martin-mas day: However the next day after I had received your Decemb: 19th I did resign the place here before a public Notary and writ that very post to the Archbishop of York to order his Chancellor to accept it in *formâ juris* and requested him to acquaint her Majesty and my Lord of Canterbury with this, which I hope will fully satisfy all my friends and cleer me, who as I have got nothing by keeping the place, so it would be hard if beside my being unfavourable for the New Organ² I should also loose my reputation and my best friends upon meer surmises I doubt not your endeavour to set me right again and wish you could hint to our Freind M^r E. Tho:³ who it is hath invented all those malicious and false suggestions concerning me

Who am. Sir &c.

162. T.C. TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

Durham, Jan: 5th, 1691

MY LORD

I hope your Grace received mine of December 19th with the notice that I had resigned the Precentorship, at his Majesty and your Graces desire, and wonder to hear that my Lord of Canterbury knew nothing of it Decemb. 28th. I have don my part and have directed D^r Watkinson to prepare his powers to accept it now upon my going to York. So that now I hope all persons will be pleased, and I may have some justice don to my character, which hath suffered so much by the mistaking the true state of the case, for cleering whereof give me leave to adde one passage to your Grace.

¹ This may be a reply to Brian Fairfax, whose letter, however, was dated the 15th. Perhaps Comber received it on the 19th.

² This was evidently one of the scandalous stories set about. Comber had been zealous for the new organ in the minster. (See Vol. I, p. 22-3.)

³ Mr. E. Tho. seems to be Mr. Edward Thompson, the York alderman.

The best lease of the Precentorship, Driffeld, had a life which fell above five years ago, confessed by M^r Hutton, the tenant (a Conventicler) to be worth 120^l, yet he never offered to renew till he thought I was going to be turned out for not reading the Declaration in 1688, and then, like a man of his principles, offered me only 60^l, which I scorned as an injury to the Church and an ill precedent. Upon this he said no more of it till I was made Dean of Durham. Then hoping he had an advantage, first by his son at London, and then himself, pressed me to take 80^l. Now if I had been that covetous man I am represented to be, I had taken this mony, which by right had been my due for five year, and which I must loose forever if I did not accept, yet I absolutely refused it as too mean a valew, and a mischief to the place I was going to leave, which would be hurt by this example in a future renewall: and yet at that time I was forced to borrow 100^l. However this lease is yet unrenewed, and I acquaint your Grace with it, to prevent a base design of this Hutton, who gave out, as soon as D^r Fall was named my successor, that he was promised to renew it for much lesse mony then he offered me. Now if this be true, the D^r is not the best man in the world to treat with my tenants before hand and wrong the Church by taking a mean rate for the best flower in that garden: and, if it be false, the D^r will cleer his reputation by not hastily renewing with so ill a man as M^r Hutton till he understands the true value of the thing, and as I have generously left him the mony, so I will acquaint him with the particulars, and put him in a way to act for his own honour and the Churches interest, if he carry himself as he ought to one who hath left him this advantage.

My Lord, I have now performed all my promises, and though while I had the misfortune to be under your Grace's ill opinion all my requests to your Grace failed, yet now I am cleer'd of all suspicions, I hope your Grace may do all you promised me for the Apothecary my kinsman¹ and my Lord of Canterbury's friend, and for the poor butcher, who hath 9 or 10 children, and is really hurt by my comming away, which promise was only to try them and use them as they performed.

It was ill done of them that told the Queen I was the author of the

¹ Timothy Portington, an apothecary, of Malton, in 1663 married, as his third wife, Frances Thornton, the daughter of Robert Thornton. He died in 1697.

Defence of Pluralties, for nothing can be more contrary to truth, as I have now satisfyed her Majesty and my Lord of Canterbury. I pray God forgive my enemys, whose evill designs against me shall not discourage my sincere endeavours to serve the Government and the Church in a place where all my services are little enough as things have been ordered, and wherein I shall demean my self as becomes,

my Lord,
your Graces friend and servant
T.C

Endorsed "A copy of my letter
to my Lord of York. Jan : 5th 1691.

163. BRIAN FAIRFAX TO T.C.

Lambeth. Jan 12. 169 $\frac{1}{2}$.

SIR

I hope I need make no Apology for the stile of my last Letter, then that it was dictated to me. I know what respect is due to a Person of your Merit and Dignity in the Church, and was sorry any occasion was given to write in that manner. I acquainted his Grace with the contents of yours wherewith he was well satisfyed, and bid me tell you That as to the Booke of Pluralities, he never told the Q(ueen) of it, nor dos he beleive you had any hand in it, and I know very well it was none of yours. Any other accusation or Accusers I know of none, and I shall be ready at all times and occasions to serve you in any thing in my Sphear. My Lord Fairfax is absent for a few days in the Country when I see him and will put him in mind of his promise to the organ at York. I am,

Sir
Your most humble
Servant
Br. Fairfax

For the Reverend D^r Comber
Deane of Durham
Durham.

164. JAMES FALL TO T.C.

York. Feb 15th. 92.¹

REVEREND SIR

I have two of yours to answer, one that you left for me here; and another return'd to me by our Archbishop. I am heartily sorry that I missed so happy an opportunity to wait upon you before you left this place. If I had been so lucky, I am confident all your jealousies of me had been wholly removed in the space of one quarter of an hour; and I do earnestly intreat that I may be restored to your charity, upon assurance that I am able to give you full satisfaction. I never thought nor did you wrong in my life. One line writ to either of the Archbishops before, or at, Martinmass last, such as you did write some weeks after it, had prevented all mistakes between them and you, and these being now so fairly removed can leave no impression to your disadvantage with persons of such sense, honour, and integrity as they are. For my own part I have the satisfaction of a perfect calme in my own minde as to all things relating to you. I honoured you ere ever I saw you, your kindness to me when I did, encreased it, and I hope nothing shall ever alter my thoughts. My greatest disadvantage is, that I succeed you whose character is so great in our Church. *Sequitur tamen, quamvis non passibus æquis*, God being my helper. I have a strong apprehension that you labour under a mistake who are the friends to whom I owe my preferment, but untill you and I meet there is no hazard, tho' you continue in it.

As to M^r Hutton's lease, I both thank you for your leaving it for me, and the good information you give me about it. I will do nothing without M^r Squire's advice, as to the renewing it, nor yet as to the quota of the fine² without the Archbishop's knowledge, who is the fittest judge if I wrong my successor. I am under no obligation by promise to M^r Hutton, for I have not as yet so much

¹ This is 1692, and not 1693 according to modern reckoning. See the date at the end of the letter.

² At this period it was the custom to grant a lease for a long period, say, forty years, on payment of a sum down and an annual rent. At the end of thirteen or twenty-six years a new lease would be granted for forty years, on payment of a sum called a fine, and the continued payment of the rent.

as seen him, nor to his sone, as appears by his letters to me, which I shew'd to M^r Squire. I was indeed attempted upon; but, Sir, I thank God I am not the man you seeme to take me to be, yet I will own that I ow an obligation to young M^r Hutton that has ventured himself upon me, when you offered him so good conditions, and I will never go to take an advantage of a man who hazards his own interest to do me a kindness, and I think no shame to own it, that what he offers me willingly is more to me, at this time, then 200^l were to the Reverend Dean of Durham. But in all this I have done nothing as yet, nor will I be too hasty. I also give you thanks for suggesting to me an opportunity to be kind to the Vicar. I will minde his interest as my own.

The kind offer you make me of your house I have accepted of, and do referre my self to you for what rent you shall think fit to receive of me. It's going to be sold for 200^l, together with the rest of the houses belonging to it. I humbly beg your advice in this, whether you think it a bargain for me or not, for the money I could pay at Whitsunday next.

I meet with very much kindness from all my Brethren here, and am to protest Residence Thursday next, by the Dean and their leave. The event you shall know, for I desire to entertaine your correspondence, and to retaine your favour and friendship for me, who am with all respect

Reverend Sir

Your faithfull friend and humble servant

Ja. Fall

Sir, I had allmost forgot to tell you that I have received the contre-parts of the leases from D^r Burton, for which I do also returne you hearty thanks.

Endorsed

“The Precentor's lett^r to my Dear

Father. Feb 15, 169¹/₂.

165.¹ T.C. TO TIMOTHY MANLOVE²

March 7. 91.

S^r

I rejoyce you accepted the kindnesse I expressed, which flows from a higher principle then common Civility and tends to a nobler end then the satisfaction of needless though ingenious Querys. You confesse we have already attained so far as to agree in Doctrines of Faith & how far the authority of the Catholic Church in generall Councils or otherwise swayed your mind or mine to this unity is nothing so materiall to enquire, as to find out a means to accomodate those points wherein we yet differ: Wherefore it would be more worthy of our time and pains if you would acquaint me which are these things enjoyed by our established Church, which you think so evill as not only to hinder your entire Communion with us, but to justify your holding a separate Assembly: In these matters proposed with a disposition to yield to Truth, I shall think my labour well spent, and wish it may be as much in my power as it is in my inclination to satisfye you. If you had read the Acts of the Councils at large you would have found representatives at some of them out of the limits of the Roman Empire, so might either not have proposed or satisfyed yourself in most of your enquirys which are fitter for a free occasionall discourse when we have adjusted other points, then to be answered in writing now: And if you have a desire either to read the Councils or some good Authors that treat of their Authority probably my study may afford them & you shall be welcome to anything there.

In the mean time I have sent you Dr Maurice his account of the extent of ancient Diocesses and Primitive Episcopacy,³ which I

¹ Brit. Mus. Add. MS. 4275, f. 117.

² Timothy Manlove was born in 1663 at Ashbourne in Derbyshire. He was a Nonconformist minister first at Durham. He went to Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, as Dr. Gilpin's assistant; pressed to do so by Ralph Thoresby. He went from Leeds to Newcastle to what is now the Church of the Divine Unity. He died 9th August 1699 of a fever. His death is recorded in the Register of St. Nicholas, Newcastle. He wrote books on *The Immortality of the Soul* and *The Soul's Preparation for a Blessed Eternity* (a volume of discourses. He is frequently spoken of as Dr. Manlove and practised as a physician. He was a Licentiate in Medicine.

³ Henry Maurice wrote *A Vindication of the Church and Diocesan Episcopacy* (a Reply to Baxter) in 1681 and *A Defence of Diocesan Episcopacy* (a Reply to Clarkson) in 1691. The former seems the one referred to. See Letter, March 29th, 1692.

hope may satisfy you that if we follow these excellent patterns, all the Congregations in each Diocese ought to be under the jurisdiction of one Bishop, which is a point of importance to be considered by those in your circumstances, especially of your candor & moderation With my hearty respects I conclude, assuring you I shall be ready to approve my self

S^r your true Friend & well-wisher
Tho : Comber.

S^r¹

Your friends skill & integrity in Antiquity may be guessed by his Quotation pag : 30th

Where he cites the 3 Can : of the 2^d Nicene Council w^{ch} set up image worship An : 787. to show the opinion of the Ancient church.

For 1st the Council was then rejected, by many in the east and by most of the Western Churches : & its Canons were not Law. 2^{ly} This Canon contradicts 1st The genuine Oecumenicall Council of Chalcedon² which allows the Great Men to joyn with the Clergy in the election of a Bishop³ : 2^{ly} the Civill Law of Justinian then used & in force w^{ch} allows the same Novel. Const. 123. cap 1 : and 137. cap 2. 3^{ly} the generall use both before and after this trifling synod. Witnessse Tarasius⁴ the president of it who was put in Bishop of Constantinople by the Emperesse Irene⁵ and Photius⁶ who was put into that see by the Emperor Bardes⁷ & so were most of the Patriarchs of those ages.

¹ Brit. Mus. Add. MS. 4275, f. 118. There is no signature and it is probably an appendix to the last letter.

² The Council of Chalcedon, 451, the fourth Oecumenical Council.

³ There is nothing about this in the Canons of Chalcedon.

⁴ Tarasius, made Patriarch of Constantinople by Irene, 784. Largely by his influence the second Council of Nicaea held 787. Succeeded by Nicephorus in 806.

⁵ Irene. Byzantine Emperess. Married Leo IV in 769. When he died in 780 she ruled over the Emperor who was only ten years old. In 790 he was proclaimed sole Emperor. Two years later she put out his eyes and seized the government. She was banished in 802.

⁶ Photius. Patriarch of Constantinople. Elected 858, but Pope Nicholas declared the election illegal. Photius withdrew Constantinople from communion with Rome for a time. He was excommunicated by the Pope in 863. He was deposed by the Emperor Basil in 867, but reinstated in 877. He was banished by Leo VI to Armenia in 886.

⁷ Bardas. A learned and able man and patron of learning who was Cæsar in the Byzantine Empire 856-66. He greatly increased the prestige and power of the empire. He was murdered in 866.

3^{ly}. This Canon only concerned the Eastern Churchs, for at that time the Western Princes nominated Bishops in France, Brittain &c. If it be said this Canon cites two more ancient, I grant it, but very absurdly, for the former is the 30th Canon Apostolicall (w^{ch} M^r Bax: scarce owns for genuine Antiquity) But suppose it be ancient and genuine, it was made while Princes & Magistrates were Pagans & is ridiculusly applyed both by this despicable Council & Mr Bax: to Christian Princes nominating Bishops. 2^{ly} They cite the 4th Can: of the famous gen: Council of Nice,¹ but very weakly, for that Canon is about ordination² which they apply wth M^r Bax: to election.

Only M^r Bax: fraudulently leaves out half the Canon as it is in both Councils—ending with *ab omnibus qui sunt in provinciâ constitui* (but it goes on). that if any difficulty of times or length of may make this hard to be don, However three must meet, & the rest signify their consent by letter, & so let (*τὴν χειροτονίαν*) the ordination be Performed, reserving the confirmation to the Metropolitans. Now for a tender conscience to cite so falsely, or purpose to make his readers think “all in the province was not” all the bishops, but “all the people—& that it was not about Ordination but” election is to strain at a gnat & swallow a Camel.

166. T.C. TO TIMOTHY MANLOVE³

March 29th 1692.

S^r

With Dr Maurice his book (which effectually ruins all that M^r Baxter takes for granted on that subject) I hoped to have received your opinion of it.

In the mean time as to the book you send me, to read it once over is enough to enable any man of tolerable sense to answer it. It consists of so many far-fetched & hard stretched little particulars to make conformity by accumulation look something like a fault, that the composition speaks in too many places the age of him that writ it, & I cannot imagine one who seems to be so moderate or

¹ The first Council of Nicaea. 325 A.D.

² The canon which orders that a bishop shall be consecrated by three bishops at least.

³ Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 4275, f. 119.

ingenuous, can think the Xth part of them solid : for my part I have no time to answer so tedious a miscellany of little studied Cavils, & if I had should think my pains very ill spent in unloosing such poor Knots in a bulrush.

But if you own his concessions in the 3rd chap & then single out 3 or 4 of his objections Chap 4th which are the main obstacles to your conformity. I will endeavour to answer the particular reasons or rather aggravations of those chapters you fix upon, to your satisfaction .

Otherwise, if you can think the whole needs or deserves an answer I shall reckon you among the incurable, and must leave it to some that hath lesse businesse to undertake the matter. For the greatest part of this discourse is *ad populum phaleras*¹ writ with equall malice & weaknesse, but whatever is materiall to your case shall be if you please considered by

S^r your friend to serve you

Tho : Comber.

In his 30th page he pretends to cite
a Canon of the Nicene Council, but
so absurdly that I blush for him
Endorsed.

“ For M^r Tim. Manlove
these.

167. T.C. TO TIMOTHY MANLOVE²

SIR

Your opinion of the book I sent you (which effectually I think ruins all that M^r B: takes for granted about his Primitive Presbyter Bishop) I should be glad to hear of M^r Bakers objections &c. In the mean time the Book you sent me consists of so many far-fetched and hard stretch^d particulars to make non-conformity by accumulation look like something of a fault, that I cannot imagine you who seem so moderate and ingenious can think the Xth part of them solid, my leisure will not give me leave to answer such a heap

¹ *Ad populum phaleras*—trappings for the mob. Persius Sat, III, 30.

² This letter covers much the same ground as the last. According to Thomas Comber the younger, there was a copy of a letter to Mr. Manlove which he saw, which was endorsed to the effect that it was never answered. This is probably the letter. He ascribes it to the year 1693, but 1692 is more probable.

of Tautologys and such a tedious miscellany of studyed cavils and if I had time, I should think my pains ill bestowed upon such meer knots in a busynesse!

But if you please to own you agree to the concessions of his 3rd Chapter and then single out two or 3 of his objections chap 4th which are the main obstacles to your conformity, I will very willingly endeavour to answer so many particular chapters in his Book as treat of the objected heads, and hope to satisfy you that there is no sufficient reason alledged by M^r B for his or your own non Conformity

If this be refused, and you insist upon an answer to the whole book, or assure me you take the whole to need or deserve an answer, I shall allow my notion of you, and reckon you among the incurable, which character nothing I have seen or heard of you yet seems to give you : no more but that I am Sir

Yours to serve you

T : C :

Page 5: None greater . . . nor severer persecutors then English Presbyterians of old and Scotch of late.

Page 9. His postulates reflect severely on the 45 Covenant imposed What think you of R : B : who compared conformity to fornication

Page 10th : He runs from reall to supposed sin

11th He grants no unsound matter in the Forms 1668

17th M^r T : M : was not at age in 1660 as I believe

ibid : Oath of canonical obedience : allowed p 12 § 14

ib : § 3 falsely recites Can : 49 for examined and approved enough.
and this Canon seldom pressed if it be only 10^s : Fee :

ib : § 4. Comp : his 2 and 3 Concession pag 11.

p 18 § 6 : Why should children suffer for Fathers?

§ 7 : What is it to the Minister unlesse he be a Godfather

p 19 If any Parent will have the child unbaptized rather then submit to order, Minister innocent

p. 21 § 29 : it is the children of other parishes that we must not baptize

§ : 32. The Canon speaks of Solemn Fasts which M^r B : fraudulently omits

§ 34. Covenant now out of doom 11 years ago.

168. T.C. TO THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN

Durham May 3^d 1692

MY LORD

By your Lordship's kindnesse and their Majesty's favour I am here put into a considerable post, and by affection as well as gratitude bound to serve the Government to the utmost of my power. I have no need to desire any man's favour or fear his anger, and my interest, as well as my duty is to secure their Majestys in peace, which puts me upon an unusuall, as well as a generally ungratefull, office, to inform your Lordship of the state of this Country, which I always suspected to be mostly disaffected, and the late discourse of a descent from France¹ confirms me in my opinion, for it is not strange to me, but may appear so above, to find the Papists allowed to ride with arms, and the disgusted Protestants to appear very bold and merry upon this news. Their discourses of late are daring and provoking, their carriage insolent, and the men in office connive at all this. I am not willing to particularize, but if I would, there are few of emminence I must not complain of. But if a descent should be either in Scotland or these northern parts, I fear the Government will find they have trusted their power into many wrong hands. I hope 'tis time enough yet to regulate these things, and yet it should not be delayed, for an irretrievable mischief may happen before we are aware. I have daily complaints made from severall honest men, who are very apprehensive of the ill consequence of too long trusting some, and they can give account of particulars. Of which enquiry, if your Lordship (who sits at the helm) sees any necessity, I could, from some of my trusty friends, be more fully informed. But I still hope the news of a descent is a mere sham, and if so, there may be more time to regulate all with lesse noise : yet if your Lordship apprehend such a thing will be attempted, something must be done speedily. I have now delyvered my own soul in giving this faithfull notice in generall, and if I receive direc-

¹ The Battle of La Hogue, May 19th 1692, put an end to the design of Louis XIV and James II to invade England.

tions shall do my best to follow them. So that I will wait your Lordships sense of the matter, and remain

my Lord

Your Honor's most obliged humble servant

Tho. Comber.

Endorsed.

Copy of letter to Lord President

(Marquis of Carmarthen) May 3^d 1692.

169. T.C. TO THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN¹

May 3rd 1692

MY LORD

By their majesties favour and your Lordships care, my circumstances are such as to be above needing the favour, or dreading the Anger of my neighbours, since I have but one thing to wish (as to temporalls) and that is the peace and prosperitie of their Majestys Government, to which duty, as well as gratitude, obliges me to contribute as far as I am able. I always suspected and now too apparently discover this country to contain many Male-contents. I am daily informed by such as I can trust that the late news of a descent from Fr[ance] hath been received and told by many, not only with confidence but satisf[action] and upon it divers appear bold and merry, their discourses being very daring and their Actions insolent. The Papists also are noticed to ride of late armed and well mounted and tis feared some whom the government trusts with power connive at all this. And those who compl[ain] are so sensible of the danger that may ensue if there should be any invasion in Scotland or these parts that their zeal for the public good makes them willing to instance in some of the Principall persons, wherefore I thought it my duty privately to acquaint your Lordship, who know what probability there is of a French descent upon us, and what danger may arise from the practices and connivances complained of :

¹ Comparing this with the previous letter, it would seem that there were two drafts. This, having some abbreviations, may be the original draft, but it differs from the other very considerably. This is the form given in the *Memoirs*, pp. 306-7.

if there be little danger to be feared from either none will more willingly avoyd the ungratefull office of informing, but if there be a great and just occasion to serve the public, I and my friends will call nothing grievous that contributes to so good an end. It is therefore in your lordship's breast, whether you please to give any further directions in this matter or no: but if your Lordship think a list of particulars may be necessary I can with speed and privacy get it from the best hands, I beg my most humble duty and faithfull service may be presented to her Majesty, whom God long preserve, with all those faithfull friends to the Government and to the Church of England that are now at the helm, who have the most hearty prayers of my Lord

Your Honours most obedient and
most affectionate servant

May 3^d
1692.

Tho: Comber.

There is a great town 12 miles North¹ towards the sea which needs a speedy regulation.

170. T.C. TO EVERARD EXTON

May 6, 1692.

SIR.

If there were not a great and just occasion I should neither complain nor seek remedy, but my obligations to repair all that hath been decaying in so large a house and out-houses since 1661 and wherein I must both remoove, furnish, and repair, without hopes of 2^d from my immediate predecessor, put me upon enquiring if those who had a great, long, and reall advantage by the Deanry, were not bound to make me some compensation for what happened in their own time. What the late Dean demanded, or his designs, I consider not, and only demand for what was in decay in D. Sudbury's time,¹

¹ Newcastle is fifteen miles north of Durham. Sunderland is about twelve miles but lies north-east.

² About 1680 Dean Sudbury began to rebuild the old refectory, known in the seventeenth century as the petty-canons' hall. He spent £1,000 or £1,500 on it, but died before it was finished, and charged his executors to find the funds to complete the work. This was done by his nephew and heir, Sir John Sudbury (created a

and the best way to know that is to refer it to any two gentlemen or others who have known this house for many years, and if you and my Lady please to choose one such Gentleman, lawyer, or divine, I will choose another suteable, and we will be bound to stand to their award, or to the umpires sentence chosen by them, and that I may not seem to be partiall in my own case, I take this to be a better way then for me to make any proposals from my self. Wherefore, if you signify to me that my Lady is free to name a referee (which should be one that can view the place, and by his own judgment and discourse with workmen understand how far my complaint reaches Dean Sudbury's time), I shall readily name another of like character, and shall only say in generall that if my Lady please amicably to compose this businesse, my demands shall be much lesse than my losse is like to be, and I will leave my case to any man of conscience and discretion. I need only adde that I have as yet only repaired whole roofs, walls, and floors, which generally were in decay before D^r Greenvil's entrance, yet I have layd out already above 200^l, and there is three roofs more which were out of repair in D. Sudbury's time, which must all be new cast. But I desire not to be my own judge or carver, and if my Lady do consent to refer it, let me speedily know her referee, and you shall have one of like character named by me. Col. Tempest¹ hath been in Yorkshire neer a month, so I have not heard of him, and therefore send this answer in the mean time from,

Sir

your friend and servant

T.C.

Endorsed.

Copy of letter to Everard Exton²

May 6. 1692.

baronet in 1685). No provision, however, had been made for the repair of the deanery and nothing had been done there by either Sudbury or Granville. Sir John Sudbury of Eldon married Bridget, daughter of Sir Thomas Exton. He died 1691, and she inherited her husband's property and is the "my lady" mentioned here. She married (2) Sir Thos. Clutterbruck of Ingatestone, Essex, and (3) in 1699 Edward Carteret.

¹ Colonel John Tempest of the Isle and of Old Durham married Sudbury's niece and with her a portion of five or six thousand pounds.

² Everard Exton, LL.B., was Principal Registrar of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and of the Archdeaconry of London.

171. THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN TO T.C.¹May the 7th 1692.

GOOD COSEN

I have rec'd yours of the third instant and as you do thereby show your great zeal for the Publick, so I was no less desirous to pay you the best services I could by showing the Queen your letter: whereupon her Ma^{ty} was pleased to say she took it well from you, and directed me to write to you for a list of those particulars you have intimated in your said letter.

What you write will be managed with all the secrecy you can desire and may perhaps be very serviceable at this time, and I desire you will explain what regulation you think it is the Town needs w^{ch} is 12 miles North from you.

I am in great hast and have therefore only time to assure you of my being

Sir

Yo^r very affectionate kindsman
and humble servant
Carmarthen

172. JOHN THOMAS¹ TO T.C.Nov. 20th 1692.

SIR.

If the reasonings of M^r J. Smith have been prevalent enough to ingage you to pay any money (on the account specified in his letter) into the hands of M^r John Turner, the younger, of London, merchant, for my selfe, these are to informe you, that it is put into a

¹ In the possession of Mr. R. J. H. Comber.

² John Thomas was really Dean Granville. At the outbreak of the Revolution he had left England and made his way by a roundabout journey to Rouen, which he reached at the end of March 1689. There he lived for several years, generally much straitened for money. After his refusal to take the oaths to William and Mary he was in February 1691 deprived of all his preferments. He had left debts behind him and in 1689 his goods were distrained by the Sheriff of Durham, and Sir George Wheeler purchased his library for £221. Dr. John Smith, Prebendary of Durham, interested himself in Granville's affairs. He was the Mr. J. Smith mentioned in the letter. When it was written Granville was still in hopes of returning in the train of a restored King James and recovering his preferments.

Mrs. Granville had been left behind penniless, and on December 8th 1690 the Chapter ordered a payment to her of £20 per quarter out of the Deanery emoluments. This continued under Comber.

very safe and certain way of coming to my hands, a Correspondent of his having promised to pay me the value of what M^r Turner shall receive, and I promise you to allow whatever sum you shall so pay, whensoever I shall call you to an account (as I have reason to hope I shall speedily) for the moneys you may have received of my tenants during my absence. Having declared my mind largely about other matters, in other letters, I shall satisfy myself at present with sending you this seasonable and necessary advice and intimation and subscribe my selfe

Sir

your affectionate friend

and humble servant

John Thomas

I desire your lady to accept of my humble service : of whom I cannot but still retaine a very good opinion.¹

For the reverend D^r

Thomas Comber

Dean of Durham at Durham.

173. T.C. TO DR. GREY²

Tuesday, St John's Day.

Dec : 27 : 1692.

S^a

There is some extraordinary business fallen out, which makes me give you the trouble of Comming over on Thursday morning or Fryday morning without fail, for we have no Chapter after this for sealing untill after Easter, and the necessity of the Church absolutely needs your presence before D^r Jessop go away which will I hope excuse this great trouble given you by

Good D^r

Y^r lov : Brother & serv^t

Tho : Comber.

The bearer comes on purpose to wait on you
To the Reverend

D^r Grey at

Bishops Weremouth

these

¹ Dr. Comber has lost his good opinion by accepting the new régime.

² Hunter MSS., VIII, No. 10.

MY LORD. 174. T.C. TO SIR JOHN TREVOR(?)

After my acknowledgment of your favours to me at London I am to request your further kindness to an old acquaintance of mine M^r Luck¹ a learned and ingenious man of very good life and a lover of their present Majesties' Government, who hath been a laborious and constant preacher above 20 years in a poor country living not much above 40^l p. Annum, and hath Ten Children which by his great frugality he makes a hard shift to bring up, but it is a great pitty so worthy a man should be buried alive in that obscurity and left to struggle with these pressing necessitys, whereof I make bold to request your Lordship and the rest of the Honourable Lords Commissioners² to bestow upon this Gentleman the rectory of Thweng-ambo now vacant, being within Ten miles of this Cure which he will quit to go to reside upon Thweng if your Honours please to bestow it upon him: The living is neer 100^l p. Annum: and consists of two medietys, but it is only one Toun and one Church and really but one Parish.³ I hear other persons are recommended, but perhaps, some of them would not reside: And I dare venture to say no man in this Diocese doth either more deserve or more virtuously need this favour which if your Lordships please to bestow on M^r Luck, I know our Arch-Bishop will thanke me so soon as he knows the Man for my recommendation, and besides the Charity to the poor Gentleman it will also highly oblige

My Lord

Your Honours most &c &c.⁴

¹ Richard Luck. B.A. Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Born at Sheriff Hutton; Helmsley School; Deacon 1665, Priest 1667; Rector of Wharram Percy 1668-92; Rector of Huggate 1692-1708. (*Yorksh. Arch. Journ.*, xxvi, 309-25.) Venn calls the Rector of Huggate Robert Luck *junr.*, but it seems to be the same person in both the livings. The younger Comber (*Memoirs*, p. 333) says that the living of Thweng was given to Mr. Luck, but he does not appear on the list of the incumbents of Thweng, which appears to be full and accurate.

² The living of Thweng (Thwing) was in the gift of the Lord Chancellor, but from 1689-93 the Great Seal was in Commission. On 23rd March 1693 Sir John Somers (Lord Somers in 1697) was made Lord Keeper; in 1697 he became Lord Chancellor. On 23rd March 1693 the Commission came to an end. Sir John Maynard had been the first head of it, but he died in 1690 and was succeeded by Sir John Trevor.

³ Ecton speaks of Twing, R., and Twing Altera, R. The two medieties, however, were united under one Rector, as in the case of Robert Constable in 1667, but not finally till 1748. (See Lawton's *Collections*.)

⁴ This letter is undated, but the facts mentioned above seem to suggest the year 1692.

If this living be gon I humbly beg these certificates may be kept and he may have a promise of the next thing in this part of the County.

175. TO ? RICHARD STERNE

HONOURED SIR

The Vicar of N : C¹ sudden death hath given you the next turn of presenting (as I am informed). The place needs and deserves a considerable man, One very well affected to the Government prudent, stedly and obliging, a man that is a popular and graceful preacher and generally accomplished. Such a person we have that is now Sacrist to this Cathedrall Mr Jo : Smith², to whom we have been as kind as we can : but we have nothing in our gift equall to his merit, he being absolutely one of the best preachers in the North, and not only accomplished by study, but by having been chaplain abroad two or 3 years : to an Embassy one of great temper, sobriety and discretion in short one of the fittest men I know for that station in a Corporation so divided rich and popular as Newcastle is, and I know him so well that I will venture my own reputation on this character, which nothing but his real worth invites me to give him, and the service I believe he may do to God and the Government in that place : He hath many friends in that Town as I beleive you will hear from other hands, and if you please to give us X days time you shall have as ample a Testimoniall from the Country there and in this Country that know him as any man can have : Sir the honour I had in the esteem of my most revered Patron your worthy Father of happy Memory the kindnesse you have so often expressed and the respects that your excellent Mother, my Good Lady always shewed me, encourage one to this recommendation, it being of great consequence to this part of the North to have such men placed in the most considerable Posts. I beg two lines in answer and remain

Sir

your obliged friend to serve you on
the like occasion

T : C :

¹ John March, B.D., Vicar of Newcastle upon Tyne, preached his last sermon on Sunday November 27th 1692 and died on December 2nd. Leonard Welstead and not John Smith was appointed in the following February.

² John Smith was at this time a minor Canon and Curate of Witton Gilbert. He had been Chaplain to Lord Lansdowne when he went as Ambassador to Madrid.

Your T:[urn?]¹ by my late Arch Bishops option, at the consecration of the Bishop of Carlisle² at which you may remember I assisted. Pray give my humble service to my Lady to whom I make the same request, and had writ to her Ladieship if I had known how to direct.

176. T.C. TO MRS THORNTON³

April 15th 1693.

DEER MOTHER

My waiting ends this night, last night being Good Fryday the Queen showed me great respect speaking kindly to me and pittying my long journey and bad way asked me how long I should stay in town, I am told this is a peculiar favour showed to few chaplains, and it satisfyes me that her Majestys favour towards me is not altered by all the lyes my enemies told her of me, for which

¹ It is not certain to whom this letter was written. The late W. H. D. Longstaffe has a note (*Memoirs of Ambrose Barnes*, Surtees Soc., p. 442); "February, Leonard Welstead inducted to the Vicarage. 'He came in by option.'" Brand, *History of Newcastle*, said that the Bishop of Carlisle was patron of St. Nicholas', Newcastle, but there is a question of "turns" referred to here, and a question of the Archbishop's "option." Comber refers to the patron for this time as the son of one of his own patrons. It was not Freschville, who died in Westminster on 31st March 1682 and left no children. Lord Fauconberg died, leaving no children, in 1700. Sir Hugh Cholmley died in 1689, leaving only a daughter, Anne Cholmley, who married her cousin, Nathaniel Cholmley, and their elder son, Hugh, succeeded to his grandfather's estates only at the latter's death. He, however, was only born in 1684 and would be only nine years old at this time. Danby was still alive. He was then Marquess of Carmarthen and his eldest son bore the title of Earl of Danby. If it had been he Comber would have addressed him as "my Lord." It would seem then, by a process of exclusion, that the letter must be addressed to the son of one of Comber's early ecclesiastical patrons. Dr. Richard Sterne, eldest son of Archbishop Sterne, was at this time Commissary of the Exchequer and Judge of the Prerogative Court at York. He married Mary, daughter of Prebendary Joseph Loveland. He died in 1715-16. He would be at York at the time of the consecration of the new Bishop of Carlisle, and seems exactly to fit the case. Unfortunately the Durham records fail us at this point, but he seems without much doubt to be the person referred to.

² Thomas Smith, D.D. Prebendary of the first Stall in Durham 1668. Dean of Carlisle 1671. Bishop of Carlisle 1684. See Vol. I, p. 51.

³ This letter is chiefly concerned with Robert Thornton's debts. He died in 1692. Mr. Parsons was his friend (see Vol. I, liii, n.). Sackville and Crowder were creditors, like the unknown apothecary. Dixon would seem to have had the management of some of the business. How Thornton succeeded in borrowing £200 from the Navy Office it is difficult to say, but from 1679-83, in the absence of Samuel Pepys, affairs there seem to have been fairly lax and corrupt, as again after Pepys finally left on February 22nd 1689.

I blesse God. By the help of my Lord Presidents letter and M^r Dixons¹ diligence we had a view of all the Navy Office, and it appears my poor brother received near 200^l there, for which (except a small sum by his order) his own acquittances are extant: Tis a riddle to know how he spent this and payd no body, and now tis plain that no body can hope for relief that way. M^r Parsons hath set the Apothecary on me, who really seems very fair, and yet I doubt I must pay half his bill, which I hope some of you will consider me for, and for . . . he can never get any thing by sute and I will labour to discourse him from meddling with you or me: As yet I have had no time to talk with Crowder, nor seen M^r Sackvil, but next week will look after that affair, but alas now the arrears fail, you must not expect M^r Dixon will be so ready to pay or promise anything to these kind of creditors I hear (but not for certain) that the Colledge payd his debts at Oxford or compounded them, for which the Master² (as they say) reflected on me at the Bishop of Durham's Table but I despise them, for if the story be truly told I do deserve no blame but praise for my generosity to that unfortunate Gentleman, whose affairs are and have long been the greatest misfortune of my life, but for your sake I will patiently bear all, and your sense of my sufferings is all the requitall I desire. Pray give my respects to M^r Denton to whom I have no more to communicate as yet, desire him if possible to let the medow or some of it before Charls come which will be about the 26th instant or sooner and I hope I shall return the first week in May but whether by Newton or no I cannot yet tell, I have not yet met with my Lady Marchionesse³ about Will Norclifs place, but have seen him and will try her goodnesse next week. I am

Dear Mother your very
affectionate and dutiful son
Tho : Comber.

¹ There was a Joseph Dixon who was a witness to Comber's will. There was also a George Dixon who on September 14th 1690 was made Town Clerk of Durham. He was removed on September 27th 1711 and Richard Lee appointed, but Dixon was restored in pursuance of a *mandamus* 4th March 1712. He held the office till 1716.

² This must have been the Master of University College, because the head of Magdalen was called President. (Robert Thornton was at both colleges.) The Master of University College was Dr. Arthur Charlet, who entered on the office in July 1691, when he succeeded Dr. Edward Ferrer.

³ The Marchioness of Carmarthen.

My Lord President¹ and Lady Freschville ask kindly for you.

For Madam Thornton at

her house at

East Newton

To be left with Mrs Grace

Thornton² at her house in

Blake-street in

York.

177. T.C. TO MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN

Durham. June 1st 1693

MY LORD.

The season approaching for renewing the Commission of the Peace for this Country, and my Lord Scarborough³ (who promised to discourse me about it) being absent in Flanders: I make bold to give your Lordship an account of my Sense as to that affair: I find such as are fit for this office by Quality and estate so generally tainted in their Principles to this Government or the Church; or so unlikely to act usefully in that Post, that I find it no easy matter to name many new Men, that I shall get any credit by: Two of this body at my recommendation were put in last year, and neither of them have acted: The former indeed is very infirm and gouty viz: D^r Henry Bagshaw⁴ and would act if he were able: The other M^r Booth⁵ brother to Lord Warrington our Arch-deacon, who hath no excuse yet would not let his name be put into my [list?] nor answer to his call which looks so like contempt to the

¹ The Marquess of Carmarthen, Lord President of the Council.

² This Mrs. Grace Thornton does not appear to have belonged to the Thornton family of East Newton. There was a John Thornton, a tailor, admitted a freeman of York in 1672. She may have been his widow or daughter.

³ Richard, first Earl of Scarborough, created Baron Lumley of Lumley Castle 1681. Viscount Lumley 1689. Earl of Scarborough 1690. As a soldier he had a command at Sedgemoor 1685. He married Frances, only daughter of Sir Henry Jones of Acton, whose wife was a sister of Lord Fauconberg. Lord Scarborough died in 1721.

⁴ Dr. Henry Bagshaw (1632-1709). Westminster and Christ Church, Oxford. M.A. 1657; D.D. 1671; Chaplain to Sir Richard Fanshawe 1663, to the Archbishop of York 1666, and to the Earl of Danby 1672. Prebendary of York 1667, and in 1680 Prebendary of the ninth stall in Durham. He was also Rector of Houghton-le-Spring.

⁵ Archdeacon, the Hon. Robert Booth. See I, lix, n.

Government, that the least he deserves or can expect is to be left out for his future. I have sounded another of my Brethren who pretends to love the establishment in Church and State, but find he will not act: so that I can name but two Sir Thomas Williamson¹ of Monk-Wermouth M^r Walter Ethrick,² the former a man of good estate and Principles the latter a man of businesse and one that can and will serve his Government and his Country: both of them Friends to my Lord Scarborough; and both live where the Country wants some in Commission, and your Lordship will oblige me and the friends of the King and the Church by putting in these two: As to Captain Tempest³ my last will satisfy your Lordship how unfit he is for that Post, and I since hear that he used all his interest when he was a Commissioner for the Poll &c to lessen the revenue by excusing those of his Party, so that I wish for your Lordships honour he may be still omitted: I must adde that we have an Under-sheriff⁴ who protects and favours the Governments enemyes whose character M^r Etherick can give and the necessity of remooving him: Also there is one Williamson⁵ receiver Generall for Yorkshire and Bishopric, that own himself not satisfied with this Government, and its easy to guesse what he would do with the Public mony if any disturbance were, it is wonder he is continued in that post. I beg your

¹ Sir Thomas Williamson of North-Wearmouth Hall was the eldest son of Thomas Williamson of East Markham, Nottinghamshire. He died April 28th 1703. His wife Dorothy, daughter of George Fenwick of Brinkburn, Northumberland, died in 1699.

² Walter Ettrick was General Registrar and Clerk of the Court of the Vice-Admiral of Sunderland. The Bishop of Durham leased out all his rights over the River Wear at Sunderland and over all ferry boats and tolls on certain kinds of merchandise in 1661 to Walter Ettrick. The lease was renewed again and again during the century, and indeed was held by the Ettrick family until 1795.

³ Captain William Tempest, son of Col. John Tempest, was M.P. for the City of Durham in 1679 and 1689-90. He married the niece of Dean Sudbury, and sister of Sir John Sudbury. He was a strong Tory and was arrested in 1695 on suspicion of being concerned in a conspiracy against the Government, but nothing came of it. He died in 1699.

⁴ The Under-sheriff was John Spearman, gent., who was appointed December 1674 and afterwards for life. He died in 1703 and was buried in the Cathedral churchyard. He began, and his son Gilbert finished, *An Enquiry into the Ancient and Present State of the County Palatine of Durham*, ultimately published in 1729.

⁵ Ralph Williamson, Receiver General for Yorkshire, Durham and Northumberland. His name occurs frequently in the Treasury Papers in the nineties of the seventeenth century in statements of money paid or received for the King's service. On July 14th 1696 he petitioned the Treasurer for a commission of one per cent on £110,488 recently raised by an aid, leaving the matter, however, to his Lordship's decision.

Lordship's pardon for this freedom, which I heartily design for the service of this County and shall submit all to your Lordships great judgment, ever remaining

My Lord your Honours most faithfull.

and obliged servant

Tho: Comber

My wife and your Lordships
Godson¹ give their service and
duty to your Honour.

178. HUGH TODD TO T.C.

Jun 12. 93.

SIR

There is a printing now at Oxford a Catalogue of all the MSS in England.² I was desiring to assist in the work, and particularly to look over these at Durham and York. I am afraid my Occasions will not allow me come to Durham or not to stay there any time: and therefore I desire the favour of you to examine the Catalogue, whether or no it be right and to supply it where it is defective, as I am sure it is as to those MSS, there are in the Bishops Library. In taking care of this matter you'll not only do Credit to your Church (which shall be gratefully acknowledg'd) but you will also very much oblige

Your most assured Friend and Brother

Hugh Todd

Carlisle June 12. 93

Please to write to me what you can do in the matter and Return the Paper by Newcastle Carrier in 8 or 10 daies.

¹ This makes it clear that the Marquess of Carmarthen is the recipient of this letter. He was godfather to the Dean's son Thomas.

² E. Bernard. *Catalogi Librorum Manuscriptorum, Angliae et Hiberniae, in unum Collecti*, Oxoniae e Theatro Sheldoniano, 1697-8.

179. CHARLES BERTIE¹ TO T.C.

London 12th August 1693.

SIR

I am under the obligations of a Promise to you (when I lay very ill both of the gout and Rheumatisme) that you should not want the trouble of my Pen, as soon as it should please God to restore mee to my health againe which I can not yet say I compleatly enjoy and indeed I have waited some time to beginne this Correspondence with joyfull tidings but I will not suffer my selfe to bee Longer imposd upon by vagrant Rumours or the vain Expectations of things that are not Like to happen I am only in the generall sorry to tell you that our Campagne both at Land and sea have not proved more Successefull and that by our amazing Conduct we have exposd the safety of the 2 Turkey Fleets both of England and Holland to the whole navall Power of France who has ruind a great part of them in the Ports of Spaine where the French now ride Masters of the Mediterranean Trade and wee have but too just cause to fear that the Spanish fleet (now returning from Italy) will fall into their Mouths so tis not impossible but that the Gallions may doe the same also, if they should chance to come in while the French continue their Station about Cadiz if you should ask what becomes of our Fleet I reply it lyes very safe between Ushant and Torbay and that it is odds Tourville will not meet with us this year since wee hear hee has passed the Streights in the mean time tis Lamentable to see the sad consequences of our Councils by the breaking daily of the eminent Marchants on our Exchange upon the disaster of our Turkey fleet, which is like to bee the subject of warm debates in Parliament.²

¹ Charles Bertie of Uffington, Lincolnshire, fifth son of Montagu, second Earl of Lindsey and Lord Willoughby de Eresby, married Mary, widow of Sir Samuel Jones, Knight, and thirteenth daughter of Peter Tryon of Harringworth, Northants. He died in 1710.

² The campaign of 1693 was disastrous to the Allies. The French captured Heidelberg in Germany and the fort of Rosas in Spain. Catinat forced the Austrians and Savoyards to raise the siege of Pinerolo and later defeated them at Marsaglia. Rooke was put to flight by Tourville on the Spanish coast. The Smyrna fleet was scattered by the French and many vessels were captured. King William was checked at Landen, though he managed to extricate his army and to inflict great losses on the French.

As for our Affairs at Land 'tis hoped Prince Louis¹ will not give battle rashly considering what a vast Consequence any ill successe will carry with it in regard to the Empire And the Danes with 12000 men (actuated by France) are now upon their march to Rutzbourg and are threatening the Peace of the Lower Circle of Saxony my Lord Sydney,² is going over to the King on Munday next and wee hear his Majesty is well recruited since the battle of Landen tho' I can hardly beleieve that any more action will passe betwixt the 2 Armies in Flanders this Summer. My Lord President is returned from the Bath sooner then hee desired finding these waters had releev[ed him] much against his Stoppage. I am now running down to my house neer Stamford to inspect a Little my own domestick Affairs where I intend a stay of about 3 weeks or a month; my Lord President with the Lords of the Councils are to goe into the City next Week to borrow £200,000 for her Majestys occasions which is not doubted but the City will furnish: wee talk of a new Parliament after this Session and that Our Successors will grant a generall Excize to carry on the Warr. My most humble Service to my old Fellow Traveller D^r Bagshaw when you meet who has been afflicted with my distemper I must also task my Service to your Bishop and tell you M^r Ettricke is yet in Towne thus I have acquitted my self of my Promise and am Sir

Your most humble Servant

Charles Bertie

To the Reverend Doctor
Comber Dean of Durham
att

Durham

Franc³: Cha: Bertie.

¹ Prince Lewis of Baden, who recovered the Palatinate in this campaign.

² Henry Sidney, or Sydney, brother of Algernon Sidney. M.P. for Bramber 1679; Envoy to the Hague 1679-81; commanded the British regiments in the Dutch service 1681-5; accompanied William to England and Ireland; Viscount Sydney 1689; Secretary of State 1690-1; Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland 1692; Master-General of Ordnance 1693; Earl of Romney 1694. Died 1704.

³ Franked. The signature of a Member of Parliament excused the payment of postage.

180. T.C. TO THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN

Aug. 17. [1693]

MY LORD

The good news of your return from the Bath and to a better state of health which Mr Bertie sends me are the only refreshment I have had for some time. We seem to despise the arguments from succeſſe, yet they are ſo generally believed That our late ill news hath made our enemies in theſe Parts ſtrangely audacious and our friends ſcarce lukewarm, of which this Aſſizes hath given good evidence. Judge N¹ not once naming K : W : nor encouraging the lovers of and actors of the Gov[ernment] in his charge, and when one was tried for wiſhing confuſion to K : W :² all endeavours were uſed to bring him off. The Judge was ſollicitated by ſome belonging to the Biſhop, the Jury packt, the K[ing's] witneſſes baffled by Council, and not encouraged by J.N. nor ſupported by one man upon the Bench : So that I was forced to this dilemma, either to ſtem an univerſall torrent or ſit ſilently (as I did) and ſee a known criminall brought in not guilty, on the credit of their evidence who were partners in the riot but not indicted : Beſides the late K's health hath been drunk openly about the ſtreets with a reflecting tune divers nights this week, and in ſhort all things ſeem to me to threaten almoſt a generall defection. I ſee this encouraged, or at leaſt connived at by our great B;³ and by men formerly thought very well affected : and what to do I know not, only ſee fit to give your Lordſhip an Account and pray your directions, ſince my affection for the Government makes me uneaſy to ſee Laws deſpiſed Authority (if acting right) affronted, and none caſſed but enemies to the Eſtab-

¹ Edward Nevil called to the Bar 1658; Knighted 1681; Serjeant 1684; Baron of the Exchequer 1685. He was diſmiſſed in 1686 for reſuſing to ſupport the diſpenſing power. He was reſtored in 1689, transferred to the Court of Common Pleas in 1691, and died in 1705. The mention of his name here fixes the date of the letter. Raine aſſigned it to 1692, but the judges on the northern circuit in that year were Atkins and Powell. In 1693 Powell was accompanied by Nevil.

² On Auguſt 10th 1693, at the Aſſize held at Durham, Gilbert Spearman of Durham, ſon of the Under-ſheriff of the city, was tried for drinking a health: "Here is King James his proſperitie; here is confuſion to King William." (Richardſon, *Local Hiſtorians' Table Book*, I, 326.) We learn from this letter that he was found not guilty.

³ Biſhop Crewe.

lishment, upon whom if justice cannot be had here (as is plain) I pray your Lordships direction how to complain above. For my part I apprehend more than ever for the present Government and its true Friends, which are few in number, and not encouraged nor assisted by such as are sent our Circuit especially by N: We have called connivance . . . hoped to win by it, affirm it is the effect of guilt and fear. Tis seen that some few Academicks brave the Law and libel the Powers that spare them, and that of 1000¹ meriting punishment not one suffers, so that impunity whets licentiousness and nothing is now in danger but honest zeal. In Y:² as your Lordship hath heard (and I hope in some other Countys) 'tis otherwise, for there they put the Laws courageously and honestly in Execution: but here our Prel: Trimming and the indifferency of all gives a melancholy prospect: for my part without I have better assistants I must sit still and only provide how I may fall decently. My Lord I need and beg your excellent advice and it shall be observed by

&c.

I have had a severe reprimand for mooving a respite till I heard from your Lordship about the Lady C. I;³ 2 lines of that businesse off or on would save my Credit.

181. P. NELSON⁴ TO T.C.

DEAR SIR

Not long agoe I happened to be in a company where two persons were talking by themselves a little apart from the rest: and I overheard one of them saying, that the *Church of England* had lost its honour and reputation by acting contrary to its ancient

¹ So in the transcript. "Thousand" or "thousands" is meant; 1000s. .

² York.

³ C. I. probably means here the Countess of Inchiquin. William, third Earl of Inchiquin, married as second wife, in April 1691, Mary, youngest daughter of Sir Edward Villiers, Knight Marshal. She was going to Ireland and arrangements were being made to pay her arrears of £1,000 due to her as maid of honour. (*See Calendar of Treasury Books*, Vol. X, pp. 221, 233.) If this is the lady referred to one can see how Danby may have been concerned in the business, but it is not easy to see what Comber could have had to do with it.

⁴ *Memoirs*, pp. 325, 331, where it is said that the letter was probably written in 1692 or 1693. Peter Nelson was a schoolmaster in St. Oswald's parish, Durham. See the *Parish Registers*.

doctrine of *non-resistance*. The persons were both of them men of learning, or so reputed to be, and they seemed to be of the same mind about this point: however being talking as it were in private, I thought it would be accounted neither prudence nor good manners for me to interpose; but yet I cannot forget the expression, *Manet altâ mente repostum*. For since it carries not only an *inveterate enmity against the Government*, but has also a *malicious aspect upon the Church*; since it is become a popular argument in the mouth of every *Jacobite* to which ordinary people know not well what to reply, and which indeed is the most plausible thing they have to say: for these reasons I think it ought to receive a full and particular answer.

'Tis true there is small hopes of *convincing that generation* but yet there is need of *confirming others*. And though many learned discourses are already extant in vindication of the present settlement, yet I do not remember any that handles this matter *with respect to the Church*, and with design to satisfy honest and well-meaning country people, who are the chief strength of the nation: and care should be taken that these be not corrupted. For if the common people, by the insinuations of the Jacobites, can once be brought to entertain this opinion, that the clergy of England have taught *that* for a standing rule to others, to which themselves have practised the quite contrary, it may have a pernicious effect in time to come.

Now it cannot be denied but that *non-resistance* hath been preached, and so indeed it ought to be in such a sense as is contained in the scripture, duly comparing one part with another, and no otherwise. There is still a truth in that doctrine which will abide while sun and moon endureth: but then it hath been imprudently managed by some preachers, and carried beyond its line. And as there are many wholesome truths which have been violently driven to a vicious extremity: so there is none that hath been more abused, or by which the people have been more imposed on, than by this same doctrine of *non-resistance*. Wherefore in answer to this malicious charge against the Church of England, these things, in my opinion, ought to be undertaken.

First, to state the case of *non-resistance*, and to shew plainly what it is, and what it is not: wherein the use and benefit of it doth consist, and wherein it hath been tortured and stretched beyond its natural bounds.

Secondly, to shew that the Church of England, and all the worthy clergymen and other members thereof, in swearing allegiance to King William and Queen Mary, and in their noble endeavours to settle and support our happy government, have done nothing but their duty, nor anything at all contrary to their doctrine.

Thirdly, that the Church of England is not accountable for the ignorance, heats, and extravagances of those ministers that have vented their passions, and preached their own fancies, and not the word of God; and who, out of a blind and fiery zeal for the Church would have ruined it, and it had long since been destroyed if their measures had been taken.

Fourthly, that it is the duty of hearers "to take heed what they hear," and not to take things upon the preacher's bare word. They ought to bring everything to the rule, and "search the scriptures whether these things are so," that they be not imposed on by them whose confidence passes for demonstration.

Fifthly, one might undertake to shew, that those men who are not only *protected* by the present government, but have been delivered by it from *slavery* and *misery*, which even themselves cannot deny, and yet will not submit to it, are a most wretched generation, and ought to be the scorn and contempt of all mankind.

Upon these heads. I thought once to have ventured on a discourse for the public, partly to lash the Jacobites for their licentious prating, and partly, to confirm the honest vulgar in their duty and allegiance. But want of time, books and skill, with some other considerations, have made me shrink from the undertaking. And since there are so many learned men, infinitely better qualified to write than I am, and who ought to be as much concerned for the *honour of the church*, and *prosperity of the government*, it will be thought a presumption in me to trouble myself in such a matter. So that all I shall do, is to shew my good-will to the present government, and endeavour to provoke some learned man to sharpen his pen upon this occasion: for it is to be lamented that men are so cold and indifferent, as to bear with patience the malice and daily insolence of the *Jacobites*. If I had those opportunities that others have, I could not hold my hands: I should certainly defend the government, *without a pension*, *Difficile est satyram non scribere*.

But now, sir, it is time to beg your pardon for this trouble, to

which your daily kindness hath emboldened me : in hopes that these hints will not be offensive to you, nor altogether improper, whether I consider you as a magistrate or a scholar, as a friend to the government, or an encourager of learning and good sense : in all which capacities you are watchful for the public good, and willing to promote such things as may tend to the common benefit of *church and state*. If you can persuade some scholar of your acquaintance to draw his pen in the cause I have laid before you, it might perhaps, do as good service as *the best sword* that King William has. I am, sir,

Your most obedient servant
P. Nelson.

182. THOMAS KNAGGS¹ TO T.C.

REVEREND SIR

I had writ sooner to Your Worship but that I heard of your being at Scarborough my humble Request to you, is, that you would be pleas'd to give me your Intrest for North Allerton. I am willing to quit my Lectureship here and the Vicarage of Merrington and reside at North Allerton I serv'd the Cathedrall at Durham Every first Sunday for four years. The Chapter knows it, and I hope will remember it. What Your Worship sees for me shall be laid up in A grateful Memory. Madam Clavering² of [Axwell Park] dy'd in Pall Mall last Tuesday night. My humble service to your Lady, I am

Reverend Sir

Your most humble servant

Newcastle

Tho. Knaggs.

July 14th (94)

¹ Thomas Knaggs was Rector of Merrington in the County of Durham 1682-1720, and was made afternoon lecturer at All Saints', Newcastle, December 2nd 1687. He was a violent Whig who made many enemies, though in a sermon on June 19th 1689 he protested against divisions in the Church and meddling with public affairs. He did not get Northallerton, but in 1697 became Rector of St. Giles-in-the-Fields. He published several sermons.

² Wife of Sir James Clavering of Axwell Park in the County of Durham. He was an old Cavalier who was accused in 1656 of advancing money to Charles II. He was made a Baronet in 1661, died in 1701, and was buried at Whickham in the County of Durham.

183. T.C. TO HIS DAUGHTER ALICE

August 30th 1694

DEAR CHILD

I am glad so often to hear from thee, and am now (blessed be God) perfectly well and shall be al safe and out of waiting to-morrow : I went this day on purpose into London to buy and send you Two which go tomorrow towards York, and you will find them at M^r Elcocks,¹ to whom they are directed, and who must send to enquire for them : if you have not time to do them before Wednesday after you get them or to do one at least, I am sorry, for till I went my self no body would find them. I observe thy Policy is putting a Bible and riding sute together : but Summer is now don, and the fashion will change before next yeer. So that I think I must buy one off one of your requests, or a respite of it however with another and only bring you a Bible. I must spare everything unnecessary from my self and your Mother, by reason your purchase throw me behind hand this year, else would deny thee nothing to encourage my first love, be not proud of my affection, for tis your humility and diligence alone can continue it neither be discouraged by a small disappointment from thy

very Loving father

Tho : Comber

My love to your Mother blessing to you and Molle and your Brothers, for all of you I pray heartily and am uneasy till we meet. I am in great haste, tis very late

For M^{rs} Alice Comber

at M^{rs} Freemans

Bording School

in Coney Street in

York.

¹ There was, of course, Preb. Elcock, but Comber would have spoken of him as Doctor. Francis Elcock, grocer and former Lord Mayor, died in 1686, but there may have been someone in his house to succeed him.

184. THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK TO T.C.

Good M^r DEAN

I return you herewith your 6 sheets about Tilley.¹ I meant to have done it sooner, but that I had business upon my hands which hindred me from reading them till the other day.

I have now read them. And because you desire me to speak my thoughts freely about them I will do so.

I think you have said as much upon the Argument as can be said, and if I have any fault to find, it is that you have said more than was needfull.

You have put your proofs of all kinds in the fairest light, and have managed your Arguments to the best advantage, and have dextrously answered all objections, and the whole is performed with such plainness and perspicuity that every Reader may go along with you.

I do think that no man that is capable of being convinced by Arguments can read your discourse without finding enough in it to persuade him even tho he be a Quaker, not onely that it is lawfull to pay his just Tithes to his Ministers, but that he is bound by the Laws of God so to do.

But I think you have laid more stress upon the Divine Right of Tithes, than was needfull to be done for the establishing your Conclusion and indeed more than I think the cause will bear. I say first more than was needfull. The design of your discourse is to convince all sorts of Dissenters that they are bound in conscience as in Obedience to the Laws of God to pay their Tithes. This conclusion now I think may effectually be come at, by making out these three or four things.

(1) That by the Law of God the Ministers of Religion are to have a decent and comfortable maintenance allowed them by the People.

(2) That this maintenance may not be left Arbitrary it belongs to the Legislative Power in every Christian Country, to adjust and

¹ Dr. John Nickalls of the Library of the Society of Friends tells me that they have no certain record of this Tilley. The only two of that name which he can find are: (1) William, living at Chipping Norton, who wrote a brief testimony to a servant who died in 1687, and (2) Thomas, who was present at a marriage near Worsley, or Wigan. Neither seems likely. It is quite possible that he was not a Quaker—the name was used very loosely by their opponents for members of various sects.

settle it in such a manner as is agreeable to the Laws of Christ.

(3) That the Settlement or Provision for the Clergys maintenance by the way of Tithes is not onely agreeable to the Laws of the Gospel but recommendable upon many other accounts, nay and . . . to any other ways (And here I would bring in all those things which have raged from the Practice of Patriarchs, Heathens, &c).

(4) That accordingly de Facto the Laws of this Land have for many Ages settled the Maintenance of God's Ministers, and have vested the Clergy with as full a Right and Property in those Tithes, as any man in England has in any Estate that he possesses.

Now I say if all these things can be made good (as you have certainly in your Discourse proved them all beyond exception and contradiction) what can be wanting for the inferring the Conclusion you aim at, though you had not said the word of a Settlement of a 10th part in . . . by a Divine Law.

But further, I think that your founding the Right of Tithes upon God's Law (any other than Genrall for an Honorable Comfortable Maintenance of His Ministers) is more than the Cause will bear. I have no mind to dispute this point with you. All that I will say is that I have read over all your Arguments and in my poor Opinion they do not come up to the business.

I do allow they prove this much that there is great reason the Ministers of the Gospel should be as well provided for, as those under the Law: and I am apt to think that most of those Fathers you have quoted, that mentioned the payment of Tithes, intended no more than this! But I can by no means be persuaded, that by any Law of God now obliging Christians they are obliged to pay a Tenth or a Ninth or a Twelfth or any precise proportion of their yearly Income to the Maintenance of the Clergy. In some places they may be obliged to pay more, in other places less, according to the condition of the persons contributing, and contributed to, and the settlements that the Law has made.

You see M^r Dean I talk my mind freely to you as I always will do where I am desired, and I do it in this business the more willingly because I know I am not singular in this Opinion, and I am afraid your putting the payment of Tithes upon this Foot may create in some Readers a prejudice against your Discourse tho otherwise were so unexceptionable. As for our good Friend my late Lord of

Canterbury¹ to whom you meant to have shewed this Treatise I know what his opinion was in this matter. I have heard him say that though we had not a Divine Right for our Tithes yet we had that which would do the business very much better for our getting of them namely a Legall settlement. As for the Honour you are pleased to mention you design to do me by putting my name before the 2^d part of your Roman Forgerys, I own my self obliged to you for it And if you will not think fit to dedicate it to my Lord president (who I must confess I think now the Queen (oh dolefull) and my Lord of Canterbury are gone may most expect such a Compliment from you) I do thankfully Accept it.

I observed nothing that needed correction in your book unless it be, that you somewhere cite the Samaritan Text under the name of the Samaritan version. Whereas I take it the Samaritan Pentateuch² is the Original Hebrew Text onely writ in Samaritan Characters which were those used among the Jews before the Captivity I heartily wish you and yours A happy year.

I am Sir

your affectionate Brother and Servant

Jo Ebor.

Jan 4th 169⁴/₅

185. THE REV. J. FALL TO T.C.

York. July 15th: 1695

REVEREND SIR

The present necessitous condition of our Episcopall Brethren in any Countrey, has moved the ArchBishop of St Andrews,³ and the Bishop of Edinburgh⁴ to write a Recommendatory Letter of their Case to all pious and charitable persons in these northern parts, and have sent it by the hands of a very honest clergyman of my acquaint-

¹ Tenison died 22nd November 1694.

² The Samaritan Pentateuch is essentially identical with the Massoretic text save in minute points. The differences may in some case be caused by blunders in the Massoretic version. The script in which the MSS. of the Samaritan Pentateuch are written is older than the square form. Chronologically it stands between the square hand and the earlier angular hand found in inscriptions.

³ The Archbishop of St. Andrews was Arthur Rose, 1684-1704. He had been Archbishop of Glasgow, translated to St. Andrews 25th December 1684, and deposed at the Revolution.

⁴ The Bishop of Edinburgh was Alexander Rose, translated from Moray December 1687, deposed at the Revolution. Both these bishops had to carry on their work in secret.

ance. He is come to Scarrborrow for his health, about a fortnight hence he intends to be at Durham.

He desired me to write to you, that you would be pleased to recommend this charitable design to the Gentlemen of your Countrey now attending the Assizes of Durham, And to order some discreet person, whom you can trust, to collect from them, what ever they shall give.

M^r Chisholme (for that is the clergy-mans name)¹ not finding you at Durham, as he passed that way, waited on D^r Morton,² to whom he shew'd the Credentiall Letter. He promised to give his assistance in this affair, and to second you in anything you should propose about it. Sir you know my speciall obligations to do all in my power for my distressed Brethren. I am loath to be importunat, or uneasy, yet on this occasion, I can not but recommend this piece of charity to you. And because a charity, it shall be all the Argument I will use to obtain your zealous Assistance. I have lately sent a small summe down to Scotland, I hope to gett some litle thing more in a short time. Pardon this trouble from

Sir

Your very humble servant

Ja : Fall

I write to none else of your Brethren, not thinking it needfull, if you be pleased to Communicat this to them particularly to D^r Morton and M^r Pickering³ I hope they will take it in good part

For

The Reverend

D^r Comber Dean

of Durham
p^d.

¹ After the rabbling of the episcopal clergy began in Scotland, Dr. Fall, then Principal of the University of Glasgow, went up to London and interviewed King William who issued a proclamation intended to protect these clergy and their homes and churches, but in spite of the proclamation more outrages took place. Mr. Chisholm was not the only one who went to ask the help of the English Church for the oppressed episcopalians of Scotland. Fall's successor as Dean of Glasgow went to England armed with credentials from the Scottish bishops, and his appeal was warmly supported by the Bishop of London and some of his colleagues.

² John Morton. Lincoln College, Oxford. M.A. 1667, B.D. 1674, D.D. by diploma, 1692; Prebendary of Durham, seventh Stall 1676, sixth Stall almost immediately, and twelfth Stall 1685; Rector of Boldon 1676 and later of Egglecliffe; Archdeacon of Northumberland 1685; Rector of Sedgfield 1711. Died 1722.

³ Preb. Theophilus Pickering. See Vol. I, p. 26.

186. C. HICKMAN TO T.C.

Jan 22. 1695.

HONOURED SIR

Coming this evening out of the country where my abode is at present I found a new book of yours upon my table for which I give you many thanks and shall owe you many more when I have read it. I should have thankd you for your letter too long before this but that I was loath to answer it by halves and I can answer it no better yet. I inquir'd of M^r Bentley¹ whom I thought to be the likeliest man to inform me concerning the manuscript books at Lambeth but he could give me no account of them nor of any man that could: this week I am told the Archbishop remov'd thither himself and as soon as I can possibly find time to wait on him I will make the best inquiry I can. The Princess finds herself not with child and resolves to go to Windsor next week or the week after to spend the rest of the summer there, but I hope your own affairs will draw you this way. I most heartily thank you for your kind wishes to see me at Durham but I am the worst in the world at soliciting for myself and I never was so hapy as to have a solicitour. All my satisfaction is that I have some well-wishers and I am proud to reckon your self in the number, for which and many other undeserved favours beg you would alwaies look upon me as

Sir, your most obliged

And most humble servant

C Hickman.²

For the Reverend Doctor Comber

Dean of

Durham.

¹ Richard Bentley (1662-1742), the eminent scholar. St. John's College, Cambridge. B.A. 1680; Master of Spalding School, Lincs., 1682; Chaplain to Bishop Stillfleet 1690; Boyle Lecturer 1692; Prebendary of Worcester 1692; Keeper of the Royal Libraries and F.R.S. 1694; Chaplain to the King 1695.

² Charles Hickman. Christ Church, Oxford. M.A. 1674; B.D. 1681; Rector of St. Ebb's, Oxford; Chaplain to the Duke of Southampton and in 1680 to Lord Chandos, Ambassador at Constantinople; Chaplain to Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1684; Chaplain-in-ordinary to William and Mary; Lecturer at St. James's, Westminster 1692; Rector of Hogs Norton, (Norton-juxta-Twycross) Leicestershire; published a number of sermons.

187. P. HEALD TO T.C.

Oct. 16—96.

REVEREND SIR

I give you my hearty thanks for your kind letter and for speaking [on] my behalf to our late good Bishop¹ who told me of your kind remembrances of me the account of the sad disaster which occasion'd his death is this. he had for some time intended to visit my Lord² and Lady Scarborough but was hinder'd by the lameness of one of his Coach horses. but at last of a Gentleman in this City he borrowed a high mettled hors, and he and his Lady went on the 21st of September intending to dine with my Lord and Lady Scarborough, before they were got a mile from home a messenger met them to acquaint them that my Lord Scarborough was gone to London that morning upon an Express sent to him, notwithstanding my Lord Bishop went on to dine with my Lady at Stanstead and got well thither tho the horses were hard to be guided and fought by the way 2 or 3 times because of the strange horse. about 5 a clock in the afternoon they came Away, and a little above a quarter of a mile from Stanstead the Coach Man lookt back to speak to the two Servants, who rode behind the Coach and in the mean time one of the fore wheels dipping into a rut or hollow place lower than ordinary and he not being aware to poize his body the other way, fell out of the Coach box and let the reins go, which the horses feeling loos upon their backs fell a running, as soon as my Lord saw the Coach man upon the ground and perceived the horses to run he leapt out of the Coach and in that hurry his foot either slipt or his gown hung, or els hinder'd his Spring, but so it was (as the Surgeons judg'd) that the wheel run over his right leg a little above the ankle and Snapt the great bone and forct it quite out of the flesh and . . . the outsides shiver'd it into several jaggs and splinters. about a bow shot further his Lady leapt out, got clear of

¹ Dr. Robert Grove. Bishop of Chichester 1691-6. Died September 25th, 1696.

² Richard Lumley, first Earl of Scarborough; created Baron Lumley 1681. Treasurer to Queen Catherine of Braganza 1684; signed the invitation to William 1688; Privy Councillor 1689; Viscount Lumley 1689 and Earl of Scarborough 1690; fought at the Boyne 1692; Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster 1716-17; Vice-Chancellor of Ireland 1717. Died 1721.

the wheel, fell into a puddle of dirt and water but had no hurt Except being bruised on her right arm, but without danger. the 2 Servants who rode by presently after stopt the Coach without overthrowing so that had my Lord and his Lady staid in the Coach all had been well. but alas! the harm was already done, the Coachman gets into the box and turns the Coach, went and took in his Lady and when they came to my Lord, he was laid bemoaning himself upon the ground—they helpt him into the Coach and carry'd him back to my Lady Scarborough's and Surgeons were sent for in all haste from Chichester and Portsmouth. When they came (there being 6 of them) two of them were for cutting off the leg as the most likely way to save his life but the other 4 were against it. So they endeavoured to set it, took out several splinter'd bones and after all could not pull in the ends of the great bone the one being driven over the other about half a finger's length which was sawed off to bring them to joyn at the ends. about half an hour after this terrible operation on Tuesday D^r Ede¹ and I were with my Lord we found him in great pain, but very patient. after our short visit wee went away, with apprehensions of great danger, but not without some hope of his recovery. On Wednesday about 3 a clock in the Morning after a little kindly sleep (as twas thought) he awaked in a mighty agony of pain and the Surgeons were all sent for who when they came opened the leg and found it gangren'd whereupon they cut it off a little below the knee and then he was at ease in comparison of the pain he had before. On Wednesday night he took . . . good rest on Thursday he was chearfull and there appear'd great hopes of his recovery. but his feavour increasing he was in great pain again. On Friday morning at 4 a clock, and the Surgeons then opening it found it gangren'd again up into his body for his thigh was swell'd and discolour'd. So then upon his own request they told him his Condition and that he was not likely to live above 8 hours And just at 11 by my Lady Scarborough's watch on Fryday morning he dyed. On Saturday at 8 at night his body was brought from Stanstead carryed directly to the Cathedrall (I being one of the Bearers) and buryed and his leg in a box placed upon the Coffin thus it has pleased God to take from us this Great and Good Man and greater in nothing than in his Courage and

¹ Henry Edes. D.D. Canon of Chichester 1696-1703.

patience (to the Admiration of all about him) and in giving so great an Example of submission and resignation to the will of God under his very great pain and unusuall afflictions, and indeed the loss of him deeply affects all people who Universally lament it and next to his relations I have as great a loss as any one Man for he promised me and my friends for me that I should have the first living that fell in his gift worth my acceptance and a better prebend viz the next that fell but one, but it has pleas'd God to take him away before he had an opportunity to do either. ever since he came to Chichester he has been my friend and a very kind neighbour I was allways welcome to him, and he has been so kind as to come and stay with me an hour or 2 in an Evening many a time.

As to his Family they suffer most, and the more because my Lord not long since refus'd £600 for one fine and £400 for another and the half yeares rents were due within 3 dayes' after he was buried, but tis thought the King will consider them. he made a will during his affliction, his Lady being Executrice and my Lord ArchBishop of Canterbury and her Brother Trustees. I must needs add for the honour of my Lord and Lady Scarborough that [they] have been very kind to the afflicted. My Lady ordered all her Servants to be ready to do anything upon the least notice for my poor Lord Bishop and every time pray'd with him and receiv'd the Sacrament with him, and since his death keeps his Lady and daughter there with her and seeing my poor Lord never return'd to his house again, shee and her daughter will come no more to Chichester. and since my Lord Scarborough came from London he told her and her daughter they should stay with him and be welcome and he would speak to the King on their behalf and about a fortnight hence hoped to return and bring them good news.

tho my Lady Scarborough had such a share of this affliction that it cast her into a feaver, and D^r Radcliff¹ came from London to her but now she is (God be praised) in a hopefull way of recovery.

God direct the King to send us as good a Bishop as we had last and whoever he be, if you are acquainted with him I hope you will be pleased to move him in my behalf.

¹ John Radcliffe (1650-1714). Univ. Coll., Oxford. B.A. 1669; Fellow of Lincoln 1669-77; M.A. 1672. Practised as a physician first at Oxford, then in London. Physician to Princess Anne 1686-95. The Radcliffe Infirmary and Observatory at Oxford were built from funds bequeathed by him.

I sent my sister Martha £ . . . lately which really straitned me, New or current money being so scarce here that tis hard to receive any. I send my humble service and respects to your good Lady and yourself and remain

Reverend Sir

your most humble and obedient Servant

P. Heald.¹

Chichester Oct. 16. 1696.

Just now I hear by a letter from the Archbishop that D^r Williams² is nominated Bishop of Chichester. Dr May³ presents his Service to you.

To the Reverend D^r Comber

Dean of Durham

at

Durham.

188. MATTHEW HUTTON TO T.C.

GOOD M^r DEAN.

I having the happiness at last of getting a Musician near me M^r Pickering one of the Prebends;⁴ whose company in bearing a part with me some time I value as much as a Prebendary, I could not let the opportunity of writing by him and sending myne and Cosen Bettys⁵ service to you and M^{rs} Comber, whose distance is so great that we can scarce ever hope to meet again, but yet I must alwaies remember the pritty hours we spent in York in your companys. since

¹ Peter Heald. Sizar of Peterhouse, Cambridge. B.A. 1681-2; M.A. 1685; Canon of Chichester; Vicar of Cowfold, Sussex, 1704-28. Died August 30th 1728, aged 73.

² Dr. John Williams. See p. 28.

³ Christopher May, son of Christopher May of Basing, Hants. Balliol College, Oxford. B.A. 1679; M.A. 1682; Rector of Slindon 1683; Vicar of Madehurst, Sussex, 1691.

⁴ Theophilus Pickering, Fellow of Sidney Sussex College, was Prebendary of the fourth stall at Durham in 1692 and the eleventh stall in 1705. He was Rector of Gateshead 1695-1705 and Sedgefield 1705-11. Matthew Hutton lived at Aynhoe in Northamptonshire. It is difficult to see how the two were neighbours, but Pickering was wealthy and could provide curates.

⁵ The Cousin Betty referred to here seems to be Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Hutton of Marske, and Barbara, daughter of Sir Conyers D'Arcy. She was baptized 8th March 1629.

I saw you last I have been at the Tour and perus'd the records there for King Johns and Henry 3rds reign whence I have gathered many collections and will do still as long as I have any opportunity though I shall never find time to put them together.

Dear Sir

I am yours

Matth : Hutton

Stene

June 22. 98.

For the Reverend

D^r Comber

Dean of Durham.

189. HUGH TODD TO T.C.

SIR.

I intend, God willing, for Oxford the next week. Looking over my Papers that relate to my concerns there, I find a Particular of my Pupil, your Brother, M^r Thornton's Debts in Town, which have surviv'd him some years. I sent it to you in January 169 $\frac{3}{4}$, and you were pleas'd to say that Care should be taken to pay them, but that you would not oblige your selfe to it, or to that effect. I hope by this time you have considered well of the matter; and layd by so much spare money as will satisfy so inconsiderable a Debt. The Creditors are poor and craving, and if you had as much trouble with them, as I have you would pay them in your own defence. The Sum is 45. 11. 08 and if you send it to M^r Clavell I will . . . the Particulars and send you down the Receipts, or if I can come by Durham I will wait on you my selfe. You will allow me to be more pressing in this affair, because both your Reputation and mine are somewhat concerned in it. The good Old Lady¹ can do nothing, your Partner in the Estate² will doe nothing; so that all our Hopes are in your Justice and generosity: and I verily believe did your Lady understand the matter aright, she would make it her request, that so many poor clamorous people, as are at the Gate, should be serv'd and as soon as possible I never had a Pupil in my

¹ Mrs. Thornton.

² Thomas Purchas.

Life, and I had several, whose Debts I did not see clear'd; and I should be sorry that the Brother of so eminent a Person should be an Instance to the contrary.

Please to give my humble service to your good Lady at Newton. I wish you all happiness and remain

Your very Faithfull Friend
and humble servant
Hugh Todd

Carlisle July 7
1698

To the Reverend D^r Comber Dean
of Durham at

Durham
paid to North Allerton

these.

190. JO. SEDGWICK TO T.C.

Durham the 5th of August
1698.

DEAR SIR

Both the Elections are now over,¹ the Citty Representatives are M^r Montague² and M^r Conyers. Twas in the power of M^r M—— Manager (haveing farr the major Votes) to make either of the other two. But the Brothers were diffident of Sir H L.³

¹ The election of Members of Parliament for the City of Durham was held on 28th July 1698. The elected candidates were the Hon. Charles Montagu, with 673 votes, Thomas Conyers, Esq., with 424, and the defeated candidate was Henry Liddell, Esq., with 408.

² Charles Montagu was fifth son of Edward first Earl of Sandwich and nephew to Bishop Crewe. He was High Sheriff in 1686; Chancellor of the Diocese 1685; and Constable of the Castle 1684-1705. He represented the City in Parliament 1685, 1695, 1698, 1700, and 1701. He married Elizabeth Forster of Easington Grange 3rd September 1685. His elder brother, John, was Dean of Durham. He died 1721. His son, James Montagu, followed him as Constable of the Castle in 1715.

³ Henry Liddell, of Newton, near Durham, was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Liddell, second Bart., of Ravensworth Castle. He married Catherine Bright of Badsworth. He represented the City in the Convention Parliament 1689, again in 1695, and was unsuccessful in 1698. He afterwards represented Newcastle in several Parliaments 1701-1710. He died in 1723 and was buried at Kensington 3rd September. He was High Sheriff in 1721. He succeeded his father in the baronetcy.

Some ill management and something else let the last Honest Gentleman down. I might not mention particulars for some reason that will excuse me when wee meet, the County elsewhere was this day ended about Noon.¹ M^r Vane and Sir Robert Eden² are chosen after two days and a half poleing. M^r Lambton³ was advis'd (you know by a true friend of yours and mine) to desist and then he might command the next house, but not closeing with that Golden Optunity has now lost it the votes ran thus Vane 1344, Eden 954, Lambton 778 a full and ample satisfaction to the last that notwithstanding his honest and faithfull service for 13 or 14 yeares past there is noe freehold in such places. I heare but not from Sir H. L. that he intends to contest the Election above for there are but 15 or 16 votes different between him and M^r Conyers,⁴ but this I cannot assure you of till I speak with himsele I long earnestly to see you that I may give you a more full account of these Transactions which will a little amuse; my most humble service to your good Lady and fire side (as wee say here) and remaine Sir

Your affectionate and obedient servant

Jo: Sedgwick⁵

¹ The election for the County of Durham began on 3rd August 1698. Sir Robert Eden, Bart., with 1,371 votes, and Lionel Vane with 967, were elected, and William Lambton, Esq., received only 804. These are the figures given by Sir Cuthbert Sharp, *Knights and Burgesses . . . of the County and City of Durham*, p. 11; also by Hutchinson, *Hist. of Durham*, I, 680. They differ considerably from Sedgwick's.

² Sir Robert Eden's family came into possession of West Auckland, by marriage with the co-heiress of Dalton and Hutton. He was the eldest son of John Eden, Esq., and was created a Baronet in 1672. He represented the County in 1689, 1698, 1702, 1705, 1708, and 1710. He married Margaret, daughter and heir of John Lambton of the City of Durham. He was buried at St. Helen, Auckland, 17th May 1720.

³ William Lambton, a member of one of the most ancient families in the County of Durham, was the eldest son of Henry Lambton, Esq., and grandson of Sir William Lambton who fell fighting for the King at Marston Moor. He represented the County in 1685, 1688-9, 1689-90, 1695, 1700-1, 1701 and 1710. He died unmarried in 1724.

⁴ Thomas Conyers, Esq., of Elemore, son of Nicholas Conyers of Bowlby, Co. York, and Biddick, Co. Durham, by his third wife Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Treville of Hardwick. He represented the City of Durham in eight Parliaments and died 4th October 1728.

⁵ There was a family of Sedgwicks at Langleydale, near Durham. In June 1684 a Commission was set up to enquire into the misuse of lands, goods, and money previously given for charitable uses in Durham. One of the commissioners, a layman, was John Sedgwick. In the Vestry Book of St. Oswald's, Durham, there is an entry dated 1686 to the effect that the Dean and Chapter had granted a lease to Thomas Taylor who assigned it to Michael Foster and he to four others, among whom was John Sedgwick, Esq.

I intended to have sent this express—but accidentally lite on this Bearer who is now upon the spurr or I had enlarged your trouble in reading a little more—but your own thoughts may lenthen it when the Highest.

191. HENRY EDEN TO T.C.

REVEREND SIR

August 6th 98
Durham.

These are to tender my hearty thanks for the boon welcom receiv'd from you and your good Lady at Newton. Sir you make me your Debtor: if I cannot pay it in Specie, yet Affectibus abundo.

I came short two . . . of the Election¹ but Honest M^r Lambton came many short of the Votes. M^r Vane had 1372. Sir Robert Eden 902 and M^r Lambton 808² this Election was carried on fairly: the former with great disorder: in so much that M^r Wilkinson³ who was Counsel for Sir Harry⁴ told me he heard it would be contested, I heard likewise that those of your Corporation:⁵ summoned those in who was . . . and told them they might be at . . . Liberty, and would stand betwixt them and danger of these places, as Parkinson and som others. I can enlarge noe further by reason I am upon a little . . . yet so much time as to give my best service to your self

¹ Henry Eden was not a candidate for election at Durham either for the city or county.

² This is a third set of numbers. Henry Eden agrees with Sedgwick in putting Vane at the top of the poll.

³ Mr. Wilkinson was probably Thomas Wilkinson, son of William Wilkinson of Cross Gate, Durham (see Vol. I, p. 28), who had been Sheriff of Northumberland and died in 1717. Thomas Wilkinson (1663-1733) was a Durham barrister. He was buried in St. Mary-le-Bow, Durham.

⁴ Sir Harry must be Sir Henry Goodrick and the election referred to must be that at Boroughbridge for which Sir Henry was member 1673-79 and 1689-1705. He was Envoy-Extraordinary to Madrid 1678-82, Lieutenant-General of Ordnance 1689-1702, and Privy Councillor from 1680. The other successful candidate at Boroughbridge was Sir Brian Stapleton of Myton, second baronet, who headed the poll.

⁵ The voting for members of Parliament for Durham city was confined to members of the city gilds. In the elections it was not unknown for certain persons to be made members of a gild by methods contrary to the gild rules, or by making gentlemen members on payment, but there seems to be no reference in the existing books of the gilds of anything of this kind at this particular election. It would seem from this letter, however, that certain apprentices or journeymen had been somewhat hastily given their freedom in time for the election, but there was nothing like the scandalous affair of 1761, when 264 unqualified persons were admitted freemen, in order to influence the election.

good Lady and Madam Thornton, M^{rs} Alice and little Masters and
acknowledge myself to be

Your most Humbly devoted
and obedient servant
Henry Eden¹

For

The Reverend D^r

Comber at East

Newton

The Post Master of York is desired to send it with care
pp^d York.

192. JOHN THORESBY² TO T.C.

HONOURED SIR.

The season of the year being so far spent that sayling to London will in a little time be both dangerous and tedious: and you having heard nothing from D^r Bray, I have adventur'd to trouble your worship with a line to acquaint you, that having met with an extraordinary convenience of going by sea, I am resolv'd not to miss this opportunity, least some unexpected accident should hinder me from being at London when the D^r intends to go. I am now at Sheeles, and intend to take ship this afternoon. What I have to request is, that your Worship will (after all your other favours) be pleased to add this one more of writing to D^r Bray as soon as your convenience will permit to acquaint him, that I am coming to London to attend his pleasure. I am ashamed to give your Worship this trouble after so much already, but I hope your goodness will pardon it, because without your recommendation, I cannot expect to be

¹ Henry Eden, son of Henry Eden, Esq., of Shincliffe. Newcastle Grammar School and Magdalene, Cambridge. B.A. 1662, M.D. 1669. Among the persons admitted as freemen of the Goldsmiths' Company at Durham on 1699 were Sir Robert Eden and Henry Eden, both of course as gentlemen members.

² John Thoresby was Ralph Thoresby's nephew, the only son of his brother. Dr. Bray was the author of a scheme for providing libraries for the benefit of the clergy who should go to minister in the Plantations, but the purpose for which Thoresby was to wait upon Bray is not clear. He died of some contagious disorder in the following year. (*Diary of Ralph Thoresby*, 1830, I, 330.) His executors, out of his money left for charitable uses, gave £100 to the S.P.C.K., to be spent in buying Bibles, Prayer Books and Catechisms for the Plantations. (*The Minutes of the S.P.C.K.*, 1698-1704, ed. by E. Maclure, 1888, p. 131.)

either so favourably received, or so well lookt on afterwards. I humbly beg pardon for this interruption, and am with all due submission

Honoured Sir
Your very obliged and
most humble servant
John Thoresby

Sheeles Sep^r 10th (98)

193. T.C. TO DR. HICKES¹

29th November 1698

SIR

Yours of Nov 5th I could not answer till our Audit was over. And now I can tell you with satisfaction that upon my proposing your worthy design, the whole Body (besides divers other public and private benefactions) cheerfully agreed to encourage your Book² by making you A present of £20 :³ which I desire you will accept

¹ This letter is in the possession of the writer. It was bought of Mr. Bernard Halliday of Leicester in 1935. Though addressed to Mrs. Potter it is really written to Dr. George Hickes. The latter had become Dean of Worcester in 1683, but as he refused to take the oaths of allegiance to William and Mary he was deprived, but was allowed to remain at the deanery till 1691. Hearing that a successor had been appointed, Talbot, afterwards Bishop of Durham, he set up a protest in the gate of the cathedral choir. This was regarded as an attack on the Government and he had to go into hiding. He first found refuge with White Kennet, although the latter was a Whig. In 1692 Thomas Wagstaffe and he were consecrated non-juring bishops. He had gone to France and obtained James's permission for this. In consequence as a non-juror and Jacobite he was in hiding for a long time, wearing lay attire and trying to be unknown. He was in London for a time, then in Worcestershire, then in a cottage on Bagshot Heath near Oxford, and finally in London. Canon Overton says that in London he was living in Great Ormond Street, but this letter is addressed to Dover Street.

² Hickes like many other scholars of his day was interested in Anglo-Saxon and other northern languages. In 1689 he had published an *Anglo-Saxon and Meso-Gothic Grammar*. White Kennet urged him to leave politics alone and to continue his studies in that line. The result was the work here referred to, *Linguarum Septentrionalium Thesaurus, grammatico-criticus et archaeologicus*, commonly called *Hickes' Thesaurus*. It was published by the Oxford University Press between the years 1703 and 1705 and has been called "a stupendous monument of learning and industry."

³ The "Body" which made this grant of £20 is, of course, the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

as a testimony how much we valed your great and usefull pains in restoring the Northern Languages & consequently the antiquities writ in those tongues, for which this part of Europe are obliged to you : As to my friendship I am glad you are pleased still to valed it, as I ever did yours : for (whatever reports you might have of me)¹ when I was at London An : 1691 soon after your misfortune I enquired often after you of M^r Kettliby² & by him presented my service to you, offering to wait upon you, if he thought my service would be acceptable & was told by him, after some time, he thought I had as good let it alone, though that very journey I was kindly received at Lambeth by Ar : B : Sancroft,³ & he did congratulate my promotion to this place : But I put the distance you seemed to stand at, upon their score who (to my knowledge) misrepresented me to you. However I am of a temper easy to be reconciled and know it my duty as a Christian & therefore do assure you I heartily embrace the offer of renewing our ancient friendship, & am glad of this occasion to show my true respect for you, wishing our MSS or our company here may invite you down hither, where you shall be heartily welcome to such accommodations as the Deanery affords with all freedom that formerly was between us : if you take up one of my Books of Ordination⁴ of M^r Clavell & place it to my account, you are welcome to it, & will oblige me by giving me your opinion of it, which is very much esteemed by

Worthy Sr your old friend and lov :

Brother Tho : Comber.

[Your] Godson my eldest son,⁵ who will be 13y : old tomorrow, & I hope fit for the [Uni]versity within less than 2 years, gives his duty, & my wife her service, Madame Thornton is yet alive : & very

¹ There had probably been some coolness between Hickes and Comber, due to the fact that Comber had accepted the preferment of another non-juror, Dean Granville.

² Kettliby or Kettleby was the printer and publisher living at the Sign of the Pope's Head, in St. Paul's Churchyard.

³ Archbishop Sancroft, who was himself to be one of the non-jurors, seems to have had kindlier feelings than Hickes or Granville towards those who had accepted the new régime.

⁴ The fifth and last part of the *Companion to the Temple*, published in 1697.

⁵ The eldest surviving son of Comber, William, whose godparents were Dr. Hickes, Sir Edward Blackett and Mrs. Thornton. He was born on 30th November 1685, and therefore this letter must have been written on the 29th November 1698.

well, we have been kind to your Cosen Mary Hicks¹ & got her well married.

For Mrs (*sic*) Potter² at Mr
Boyers house the second door
on the left hand in Dover-street London.

194. JAMES JOHNSON TO T.C.

Sidney College. Jan 21. 98.

HONOURED SIR

I am glad of any occasion of hearing from so Good a friend and worthy a person as yourself to whom I return mine and the societys thanks for the excellent book you were pleased to send to me, and the College Library, where (it being bound) you may be assured it shall be carefully and gratefully preserved. I acquainted the vice chairman³ Sir William Dawes, with what you writ about the 39 Articles got out by Rogers,⁴ who being a private man could not stamp upon them the . . . of the Church of England. The book which I have was printed in the year 1607 by John Legate printer to the University of Cambridge⁵ and in the title page (. . . and by the lawfull authority of the Church of England allowed to be published) but no License mentioned. I spake with M^r Hayes⁶ who

¹ Mary Hickes. If cousin is used loosely for niece Mary Hickes may have been the daughter of John Hickes, brother of George. He had many children. One of them, Elizabeth, married John Tutchin. John Hickes was executed at Wells after Monmouth's rebellion. More probably she was the daughter or sister of "Cousin Henry Hickes," who was mixed up in the Rye House Plot and was one of the witnesses against the plotters.

² Mrs. Potter may have been a slip or it may have been a further disguise of his whereabouts. It was not until the following year that Lord Chancellor Somers procured for him a writ of *nolle prosequi*, which put an end to proceedings against him.

³ Sir William Dawes, third baronet (1671-1724). Fellow of St. John's, Oxford; Master of St. Catharine's Hall, Cambridge, 1696; D.D. 1696; Chaplain-in-ordinary to K. William 1696; Prebendary of Worcester 1698; Bishop of Chester 1708; Archbishop of York 1713. Author of various religious and devotional works. He was Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge in 1698-9, so evidently the "Vice-Chairman" twice repeated by the Durham copyist was a mistake for Vice-Chancellor.

⁴ Thomas Rogers. *Explication of the Thirty-nine Articles*, first published in 1585 and dedicated to Archbishop Whitgift.

⁵ John Legate, the elder, was printer to the University of Cambridge from 1588 to 1609 and afterwards carried on business in London. He died probably about 1620.

⁶ This would seem to be John Hay or Hayes, Sizar of Sidney Sussex. B.A. 1669-70; Deacon 1673. He had a living afterwards in Bedfordshire.

[said] he had [pressed?] the vicechairman hard to print it, without which and 2 of the Heads to license it, no book is to be printed here : and it seems he followed Jo : Legates copy. For a priest to argue because it is licensed, therefore it is the doctrine of the Church of England shows that he is no very good Logician I send this by M^r Harrison¹ one of our [Fellows] who would be glad to kisse your hand as would also

Sir your affectionate kinsman and
 servant J. J.

195. RICHARD BURTON² TO T.C.

York. Jan 21. 1698.

REVEREND SIR

My Father, who now recovers tho' slowly commanded mee to write to you, and give his thanks for your Present which I the more willingly undertook (tho otherwise it would have been Presumption) that I might at this Opportunity make my own Acknowledgements as well as his, He having given mee the perusal of your excellent Book. Tho it cannot now be to mee a Preparative for Holy Orders, which to others that are not already ordain'd it will everhereafter be the best : yet the clearness of the Method, and lustre of the Paraphrase, the strong Assertion and Defence of the Doctrines and Customs of our Church and that series of Primitive Piety and sound Instruction that shine through the whole, have engag'd me to show my Gratitude for the Benefits I have already receiv'd by it and the Continuall use I may henceforwards make of it : And I sincerely wish that, as you have shown how the three Orders of our Church may be truly conformable to the first Faith and Practice, so your self may be promoted to the last as a reward for your Labour, and to show the World that your own Merits are equal to those you require in others. And that, like the Ancient

¹ Thomas Harrison, entered Sidney Sussex College 1685. Born at Hull : Educated Hull Grammar School ; Scholar of Sidney 1687 ; B.A. 1689 ; M.A. 92 : Fellow 1691 ; B.D. 1699 ; Deacon, London, 1689 ; Priest 1691.

² Richard Burton was the second son of Prebendary John Burton, Vicar of Sutton-on-the-Forest. In his will dated 29th April 1697 the Prebendary bequeathed his estate at Birkin, to Sarah his wife with remainder to Nicholas and Richard Burton his sons.

Law-givers, your own Example may be the first success of your Instructions.

I am
Honour'd Sir
your obedient humble
Servant
Ric Burton

My Mother¹ gives her
humble Service to your
Lady and your self
For

The Reverend
D^r Comber Dean of Durham
at
Durham
Post paid 2^d

196. NATHANIEL ELLISON² TO T.C.

Newcastle Feb 9th 169⁸₉

HONOUR'D SIR

I should not have been so slow in Returning My Thanks for your most valuable Present, but that I design'd long Ere this to have been with you at Durham and to have paid them in Person; and when I was Disappointed of that design, I propos'd to my Self to have Return'd them by M^r Pickering, who I hoped would have pleaded my Excuse but he going away Sooner than I Expected I was Prevented.

Sir, I have Perus'd your Book with Infinite Satisfaction wherein you have so substantially Asserted the Justice and Honour of our Church and clergy, it will not fail I hope of . . . Order from the Control of Atheistical and Unreasonable men, and of Raising you

¹ Sarah Burton was buried 8th of September 1713.

² Nathaniel Ellison. St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. M.A. 1678; D.D. 1702; Fellow of Corpus Christi College 1682-1721; Archdeacon of Stafford 1686-94; Prebendary of Lichfield; Curate of All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1686-94; Vicar of Newcastle 1694-1721; Rector of Whitburn 1704-21; Prebendary of the fifth stall, Durham, 1712-21. His name occurs frequently in the early minutes of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

an Immortal . . . in Future Ages. Pray pardon me, Good M^r Dean, if I still continue to Importune you to look over your Loose Papers which Relate to the Government and Discipline of the Church, and to Digest them into Annotations or observations upon our Canons . . . which if it now Once Undertaken and performed by So Great a Master as yourself, The Meanest of Us of the Clergy might be able to see the Harmony between ours and the Primitive and modern Reformed churches: If this be too great a work to undertake to be so Accurate and Exact in as you are in your observations upon Our Liturgy, yet the Bare Reference to Ancient Councils, and to modern Constitutions of Reformed Churches could not fail of being very Usefull to the Clergy. I question not in the least, but if you had leisure and health enough to think and pursue this Design, you were able to make it a most Noble and Glorious work, and Every way worth of your Self.

I am afraid I have lost D^r Bray's Sermon¹ concerning the Propagating Christianity in the West Indies, for I have sent it to the Bishop of Carlisle.² But if he Returns not the Sermon I hope Sir will answer the End of it in Promoting So Good a Desyn.

I want for a Safe Hand to Return you Sum Observ(at)ions and I shall crave leave to keep . . . a little longer. if you have not Occasion for it

My Hearty Good wishes and Best Regards attends you and your Family, I heartily beg the Honour and Continuance of your Friendship, and hope I shall always demean my self as becoming one who professes himself upon all Ocasions, Sir

Your most obliged and Sincere Friend
and Humble Servant
N Ellison

To
His honr'd Friend the R^d
D^r Comber, Dean of
Durham.

¹ *An Essay towards Promoting all Necessary and Useful Knowledge, both Divine and Humane, in all Parts of His Majesty's Dominions both at home and abroad.* By Thomas Bray, D.D. 1697.

² Dr. Thomas Smith. Bishop of Carlisle 1684-1702.

197. G(EORGE) HICKES TO T.C.

February 24 $\frac{98}{9}$ REV^d SIR

I had your charter of R. from M^r Nicholson who told me you had no more such, but you seem to imply, as if you had something els of Ranulphs¹ in the Saxon of his time in your first Char-
tulary folio 54, and if that order from Ranulph to acquaint the Sherif &c, be in Saxon, I beg you to send me a copy of it, or anything els you may have in that language. I am encouraged to ask this great favour of you by your own generous offer, and the skill I now know you have in Saxon, as well as D^r Smith,² to whome I pray you give my humble service. I must confesse to you I can make nothing of the inscription you sent me, but if you, or D^r Smith have made any Conjectures upon it, pray do me the favour, as to communicate them to me, or if you have not, however to give me the short history of it, as from what it was taken &c. I pray God to keep you, your good lady, and family in good health, and remain, with the greatest sense of my obligations to you, and your brethren,

Your most obliged
humble servant
G.H.

198. LIONEL VANE³ TO T.C.London 28th Feb^{ry} 169 $\frac{8}{9}$.

SIR.

I had write to you sooner but that nothing of monet did accrue :
But this 2 or 3 days we have been upon high matters for yesterday we

¹ Ranulph de Glanville is most probably the person referred to. He died in 1190 and his work *De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ* appears to have been completed about 1187, one of the most valuable treatises on early law and custom in England. He became chief justiciar about 1180.

² Dr. John Smith, Prebendary of Durham, editor of *Bede* both in Latin and Anglo-Saxon. He did not live to complete his work, which was ultimately finished and published by his son George.

³ Lionel Vane, Esquire, eldest surviving son of Sir George Vane, of Long Newton, Knight, and great grandson to Sir Henry Vane, of Fairlawn, Secretary of State to Charles I. Lionel represented the County of Durham in Parliament in 1698, in 1700-1 and 1701. He died before 26th May 1711. He married Catherine, daughter of Sir George Fletcher of Hutton, in Cumberland.

Fla. hard

Expelled M^r James Isacson,¹ one of our Members as you will see by the Votes, and M^r Christopher Montague and M^r Cornish being both in the same Commission is ordered to appeare in their places on Monday next: to hear what they have to say for themselves: M^r Montague we are told hath not acted in that Commission since he was a Member of Parliament, so the case is quite different as to him; It was ordered this day that the names of all those Concerned in the taking Collecting and Receiveing of any of the Revennew given by an Act of Parliament in the 3 and 4 year of their Majestyes for salt, bear and Ale, or for any other duty given since by any other Act; if they be brought before the house on Monday Morning by the Keeper of the Sealls: and that M^r Lownes² on Monday Morning bring an Account how many Commissioners there was in the Treasury, Customes and Excise in the year 1694 and how many there is now: the house seemes to be very warme in this debate, and I think pritty severe, for in 3 or 4 hours time we Called M^r Isackson before the house, who ingeniously Confessed the fact that he was Ignorant of the Law: and desired till next Morning to Consider of the matter and hope'd to give them better satisfaction in it; but it was put to the Vote, those that was for allowing him more time were 333; and those against it 364, so he was Immediately expelled, and a new Write ordered to Choose another in his roome: how farre this will goe God knowes, but I shall give some of you the trouble when anything is remarkable who am, yours faithfully

Ly Vane

¹ There was a clause in Act 5 and 6 William and Mary, providing for a grant of £1,000,000 by way of a lottery. No member of the House of Commons was, however, to be concerned directly or indirectly in the farming, collecting or managing any of the sums of money to be thus raised. James Isaacson, M.P. for Banbury, was a commissioner in the Stamp Office and warehouse-keeper of the Customs. By 164 to 111 votes he was expelled from the House for this breach of the regulation and a new writ was ordered. Luttrell, *Diary*, heard that he had surrendered his place in the Stamp Office and was going down to Banbury to offer himself for re-election. Henry Cornish and Christopher Montagu had also been commissioners in the Stamp Office. On 14th February Cornish, M.P. for Shaftesbury, was expelled the House. Christopher Montagu, though on the Commission, had not acted since he became Member of Parliament, and had some time previously removed from the Stamp Office to the excise.

² William Lowndes (1652-1724), M.P. for Seaford 1695-1714, was made the Secretary to the Treasury in 1695. It is said that he was the originator of the phrase, "Ways and means," but *viis et modis* was very much older than Lowndes' time.

My most humble service to all the Collige

These

For the Reverend

D^r Cumber

Dean of

Durham

Ly Vane

Franke

199. DR. EDWARD GEE¹ TO T.C.

London. April 11th 1699.

GOOD M^r DEAN.

You will excuse my not returning sooner an answer to your last, since it waited purely for that Letter which it brings with it : if you wonder at the difficulties and delays that have been about this matter, you do but what I have a good while done, especially since their favours do not come but for nothing : the Letter pretends to be dated in February, but you will see the Ink of the date to be different from the Ink of the Letter, and I assure you I could not gett it till April the 9th in the afternoon, when D^r Younger² was so kind to bring and give it me. In your letter you desired some little account of my Travels, which I would rather have now delay'd till we are so happy to see you in town, and perhaps to wait together, when we should have time enough to discourse 'em all over. However in the mean time I shall be in part obedient, and tell you that My Travels first carried me thro Spain and Portugal, where I had the daily opportunity of seeing Popery undisguised, and very different from what it pretended to be in England, and I am as well satisfy'd as that I am now writing to you, that if any of those people had dared to talk of their Religion at the rate they did among us, or to have represented Popery either in Spain or Portugal as they did

¹ Dr. Edward Gee was also a royal chaplain. See Vol. I, p. lii.

² John Younger. Magdalen College, Oxford. B.A. 1659; M.A. 1662; Fellow 1662-89; B.D. 1673; D.D. 1681; Keeper of the Bodleian Library; married a daughter of Sir Richard Graham of Norton, Yorks; Rector of Easton Neston, Northants, 1671-89; Rector of Bishopston, Wilts.; Canon of Sarum 1680, of Canterbury 1685, and of St. Paul's 1693; Dean of Sarum 1705-28; Deputy Clerk of the Closet to Anne and George I. Died 27th February 1727-8.

to us, they had been certainly clapt up in their Inquisitions, and burnt too for such damnable errors as they would have call'd 'em, without they had confess'd em and beg'd pardon. As for Learning I know not whether anything left among 'em does deserve that name, in Philosophy they are no further advanced than Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas, and the Motion of the Earth, and the Circulation of the Blood are as absurd Paradoxes as ever the Antipodes were among them. In Philology they are as much strangers, they neither know nor care for any new books, and know nothing of the present History of Learning. In Divinity I take 'em to be at the same Pitch, for notwithstanding their talk sometimes of Fathers and Councils I appeal to you what skill they are like to have in them or the antient Church Historians, who understand not one word of Greek, that being a language so utterly disused among them, that even the Jesuits themselves neither pretend to know nor teach it in their schooles. Alas their Fathers are S^t Austin and Th. Aquinas, their Councils that of Trent, and for the rest I dare vouch they neither know their ages nor their names, nay I am further satisfy'd that the Generality of their Priests do not really understand the Brevraries and Missal they use every day I mean so far as to be able to translate even into Spanish or Portuguese, being perfectly at a losse if you would put em upon talking Latin: and therefore I have told some of my Friends, and do tell it every one now, that if ever they have to do with a Popish priest, let 'em but pull out a Greek Testament or Bible, and it will prove a very Exorcism to them. Their Libraries I visited wherever I had opportunity and found them miserably furnished; the numbers they did not want sometimes, but what were these of but Schoolmen, and Canonists and the later trifling writers of their own Order or of their Church, as for the Good Editions of Councils and Fathers, or of Historians either Ecclesiastical or Civil, no such to be found or heard of these. I remember in a Conversation I had with a Gentleman at the great and famous city of Seville in Spain concerning the poorness of their Learning and their Libraries. He told me that upon a Discourse concerning Vespasian's laying a Duty upon Urine,¹ and a Wager laid against it, that they were a long time searching, and had much ado to find a Suetonius Tranquillus in all that City, which with much ado they at last did and

¹ Suetonius, *Lives of the Caesars*, VIII, Vespasian, §23.

but one : When I visitted their Libraries, I used to make particular inquiry after MSS, and was till I knew 'em better, sent upon many an April errand to see MSS. In a Convent of the Order of S^t Austin at Seville, I asked a Father whether they had not some MSS of the Father of their Order S^t Austin, and He told me they had many of his own hand writing; we could not go into the Library then, it being afternoon, when it is lockt; but I was in no little solicitude to hasten thither next morning to see such a sight, but what do you think I was entertain'd with : a sight of a poor Edition of this Fathers works in print, which was all the poor soul meant by MSS of St Austin's own handwriting. When I left Spain I cross'd the Mediterranean to Italy, hoping to find things much better there, but I cannot say my expectation was answered, for the Priests there neglect Learning and the Greek Tongue almost as much as they do in Spain or Portugal : At Naples some of the Lawyers have entertained the Cartesian Philosophy, have a value for Erasmus (whom all I had hitherto conversed with abhor) and would bring the Greek Tongue into vogue by setting up a schoole for it, but I could not find that it made any progresse. The Clergy Secular and Regular not being willing to forsake Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas, and hating heathen Greek, tho' that was the Original Language of that and the neighbouring Cities of Magna Graecia, as that part of Italy was formerly called. At Rome I convers'd chiefly among those who have larger thoughts, and a liking to Learning, among whom the present Library Keeper Signore Abbade Zaccagua¹ understands Greek very well, but these are a very small number, and as well with them, as with the Cardinals I convers'd with, I found they had a great Opinion of the Learning of the Clergy of the Church of England; and they often expressed their Concern that they did not write more in Latin among us. At Florence, Sienna, Lagorn and Genoa I found Learning much at the pitch I left it at Naples, a Miserable Ignorance of the Greek Tongue, which was the more deplorable especially for Florence, where I believe is the greatest Collection of Greek MSS in any City in the World, if Rome for its Vatican especially is not to be excepted. When I came into France I did not doubt but that I should find Learning flourishing indeed there,

¹ He means the Abate Laurentius Alexander Zacagnius, the Keeper of the Vatican Library, a very learned man in spite of Gee's somewhat patronizing reference.

but when I got up to Aix in Provence, where I visited Padre Pagi¹ the Franciscan (as I had promis'd the famous Magliabechi² of Florence that I would do) who wrote the *Dissertatio Hypatica* and the *Critica in Baronium* (and who now has as he told me, 2 or 3 more Volumes of that Critic in the Presse upon him) He gave me no such promising account of things. He told me Learning was very much in its wane among them, that there was little or no encouragement given to learned men, all the Preferments in their Church and Encouragements being now almost universally bestow'd on them who had no other qualifications for them but their high Birth and no other merit but their Quality, that the Greek Learning was next to extinct among them. And when I came to Paris I found the Learned men there in the same note, the Abbot Longuerue,³ who is one of the Learnedest men in France, and excellently skilled in the Languages Oriental and others as well as in History, profess'd to me they had not only lost the Greek Learning, but almost the Latin too from among them, that hardly a Jesuit was left Master of that, and did charge these their losses upon that intolerable vanity among them, which he said was still going on triumphantly, of having all good books translated into their French tongue, so that now nobody minded or studied the originals, and though they pretend to publish some of the Greek Fathers as well as they have done the Latin ones at the Benedictines Abbey of S^t Germain, yet they assured me that the Monk Montfalcone⁴ (who put out S^t Athanasius's works in Greek and Latin just before I came there, and who is the only

¹ Antonio Pagi (1624-99). Entered the Franciscan Order in 1641 and for the last twenty-nine years of his life he was a Provincial. His corrections of Baronius were edited in four volumes by his nephew François and published at Geneva in 1705. He also wrote *Dissertatio hypatica seu de Consulibus Caesaris*. Lucca, 1740.

² Antonio Magliabecchi, 1633-1714. Florentine scholar and Librarian to the Grand Duke Cosmo III of Tuscany. Scholars of all nations corresponded with him, and he had a very large library of his own as well as that over which he had the charge.

³ The Abbé Longuerue was born at Charleville 1651 and died at Paris in 1733, and became a Benedictine at Saint-Jean du Jard. He was described as one of the most learned men in France. Author of *Traité des Annates*, 1712; *Description historique et géographique de la France ancienne*, 1722; *Annales Arsacidarum*, 1732; *Dissertatio de variis epochis et annis forma veterum orientalium*, 1751; *Recueil de pièces interessantes pour servir à l'histoire de France*, 1766.

⁴ Bernard de Montfaucon, 1655-1741. First served in the army and then became a Benedictine. In 1687 he was transferred to the Abbey of St. Germain-des-Prés. Author of historical and editor of patristic works. He was chosen to assist in the Benedictine edition of the Greek Fathers. He was hardly at the height of his power when Gee met him.

man that pretends to understand Greek among them) was miserably furnished with skill in that language for any such undertakings. But He went for Italy while I was at Paris, to search their Libraries for Greek MSS in order as I was told to a new Edition of S^t Chrysostom's works by Mabillon,¹ of Clemens Alexandrinus by others; and to let you see what care He took in order to it, He did not so much as Consult or say one word of his Intentions to Father Mabillon who had been there for the very same purposes, as Mabillon himself told me. And I told the Father I was sorry I did not see him before he went, because I could have told him of several Greek MSS of that very Greek Father, which I believe had escaped him, and He own'd that they had. But its time for me to consider what a long Letter I have been writing, and you M^r Dean I daresay do now repent of the making of any such request of accounts of Travels from me, its decent therefore for me to break tho abruptly off, but with this assurance that I am and shall always be with great readiness

Good Sir

your very faithfull
and most obedient servant

Edw. Gee

To the Reverend D^r Comber
Dean of Durham
at the Deanery
Durham

200. JOHN BURTON TO T.C.

York. Apr. 15. 99

DEAR M^r DEAN.

Blessed be God my recovery advances by little and little so that I hope I may live to make you a visit this summer at Newton, and go from thence to Scarborough I am entring into a Course of Steell which my Physitians tell me is the likeliest means to restore my appetite, provided I can use sufficient exercise. I never had a letter from Alderman Thompson since he went to London, nor have I been in any condition to write to him and you with other of my kinde friends.

¹ Jean Mabillon, 1632-1707. Became a Benedictine in 1653. Worked on the very large number of MSS. in the Abbey of St. Germain-des-Prés, and as a result was able to produce the volumes of his *Acta Sanctorum Ordinis S. Benedicti*, 1668-1701. He also wrote *De Re Diplomatica*.

So far as I can yet learn (for I have not seen the Brief)¹ the Dignitaries of each Cathedrall must contribute distinctly every ones name and quality, and what they give set down. As soon as I know what our Dean and my Brethren do, you shall have notice; and I defer'd answering your kinde letter thus long that I might give you a more full account: Which you may expect by the next. M^{rs} Purchas, I perceive, has ruin'd herself by her foolish match:² But why should her dear Mother, you and your good Lady be overmuch troubled at it, since it is her own wilful humor? With mine and my wifes most cordiall respects to all your family I am

Deer Sir

Y^r most obliged friend
and humble servant
Joh: Burton.

201. RALPH HUTTON³ TO T.C.

Lond

24th April 99

MOST WORTHY AND REVEREND SIR.

The great honour that I have for you presseth me on to present you with my humble Service and to give you the trouble of a Second letter, which is humbly to begg pardon for the hasty scribbling of my former, and now to tell you what joy I received last Sunday at the reading of a Letter writ by your own hands to your kinde Brother⁴ who hartialy joynd with me in wishing the long con-

¹ The persecution and revolt of the Vaudois by the Duke of Savoy during the years 1686-90 caused William in October 1689 to issue a brief for collections on their behalf. Another brief was put forth 1699. It was issued to all clergy and local officials and was to be published on the 5th or 16th of April in that year. It was recommended to Heads of Colleges, Judges and other functionaries. The Church wardens of each parish were to make a house-to-house visitation to collect the money. Collecting under this brief went on until the end of 1710 and a total of over £27,000 was raised.

² Mrs. Purchas, *née* Catherine Thornton, married Robert Danby of Northallerton, a very unhappy marriage which caused trouble with her first husband's father and gave the Dean much anxiety.

³ Ralph Hutton of Mainsforth, Barrister-at-law and Commissary to the Archdeacon of Richmond, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Joseph Cradock of Richmond, Knight, sister and co-heir of Thomas Cradock. Ralph Hutton died in 1680 at the age of seventy-eight, leaving his estate to his eldest son Ralph Hutton of Mainsforth, the writer of this letter. Ralph Hutton the younger owned, as well as Mainsforth, a "town house" in the Bailey, Durham. He sold his estate in 1707, and died at Durham in 1720, aged about fifty years, and still a bachelor.

⁴ James Comber, who outlived the Dean, dying in March 1706-7.

tinuance of your health and happiness and that you may Live many Easters to grace the Pulpit and that your Pious Example may still move all that knows you to be the imitators as well as admirers. Last Sunday D^r Lucas¹ who is blind (who I presume you know) preachd an exclent Sermon to the great satisfaction of all the Auditors in which number was Sir

Your unworthy, yet Faithfull
humble servant

Ra: Hutton

My humble Service to your good
Ladye your fair and vertuous
Daughter, and my Favourite M^r
William and M^{rs} Mary, and
Master Thomas and honest M^{rs}
Puckle and to all friends in the
College

With thanks for their respects
to my Sister

I drank a bottle with your Kind Brother and your Cosens who designe to see you this Summer, wee have had a great many horses dy'd in this new Distemper its said the Cows have got it,² but I hope it is only a report, the Great and Surprizing news is that the french King designes to land³ . . . cause we have distributed our forces, this news is very hot at Westminster, but this day dining with my Cosen Cradock⁴ and som Eminent Merchants they smile and say it is only State Policy. If the Militia are to be in rediness I must hasten to my post. If my Sparragrass at M^r Gregory's be ready I desire you will please to Command with the like while you are at Durham and if I can serve you or any of your family [you may] be assured none shall be more ready then your ever obliged Servant

R. H.

¹ Richard Lucas. Jesus College, Oxford. B.A. 1668; M.A. 1672; D.D.; Master of the Free School at Abergavenny; Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street; Lecturer at St. Olave's, Southwark, 1683. He became partly blind when young, and totally blind in middle age. He was the author of *Practical Christianity*, 1671; *Enquiry after Happiness*, Vol. I, 1685; and *Sermons*.

² The rinderpest was very prevalent in 1699 in England, especially in the North Midlands, but this only affected cattle. The horses may have suffered from glanders or more probably pneumonic-influenza.

³ This was merely a rumour. William and Louis were negotiating the Partition Treaty this year.

⁴ Perhaps Sheldon Cradock, who was the son of William Cradock of Gilling and Mary, daughter of Gilbert Sheldon of St. Andrews, Holborn.

202. T.C. TO MRS THORNTON

Durham April: 25th. 99

DEAR MOTHER

Perhaps my last might fright you, for I was disturbed till the day my Sister¹ writ me word that shee and her Father had met and were good friends, this its plain shee ows to my letter to the old man, and now I doubt not to be a good instrument in settling that affair to all your satisfaction: My horses are fallen so ill, all of them in the new distemper, that I cannot (as I intended) come with M^r Man, but hope next week I may be able to venture to wait on you, being much recruited as M^r Man will tell you, and next Tuesday Bulmer shall bring you an account when I purpose to be there: M^r Man hath here taken great pains and I hope will not repent his journey I fancy My deer, chiefly to see you, but in complement to take care of me (which shee doth the best of all nurses in the world) designs to come with me, since I must bring my Coach, so some Oats are to be bespoke tho deer. I blesse God we are all pretty well here and our young people will write to you: I am glad you agree with me in resentments of that whiffling Knight Sir A:D²: and am sorry your occasions should oblige you to make application to so ungrateful a wretch, I have sent the news of it into Ireland to Cos: Jackson Capt: who married his Sister, and tells me he uses him as you are used, tho he know not your case: I fancy at last your Oldest will prove your best friend: I have no more to adde but that I am

Dear Mother your dutifull Son

Tho: Comber

I enclose you my Sisters letter received yesterday which you may keep till I come.

For my Deer Mother

Madam Thornton

these

Newton.

¹ Mrs. Purchas, *née* Catherine Thornton, who had entered on a second marriage with Mr. Robert Danby. Her first husband's father was very angry, but here they seem to have become reconciled.

² Sir Abstrupus Danby.

203. JOHN BURTON TO T.C.

York May 1st 1699.

DEER SIR.

I promised in my last, to give you some account what we did here concerning the Brief for the Vaudois Protestants: and was in hopes to have done it before this time: His Grace of York writ to the Archbishop of Canterbury to know what method they took in that Province, but as yet has had no answer. However tis agreed on all hands that every Dignitary must subscribe single. Our Dean (my Kinde friend) acquainted me with a letter hee receiv'd from you by the last Post, wherein you desire him to recommend a person fit to succeed the present Schoolmaster upon his removeall. He was pleas'd to think of my Son Nicolas,¹ who you know was bred at Westminster school, and thence elected to Christ's Church Oxon where [he] has been about 8 years, took his Masters degree this time twelve months and is Student of that Royal foundation. The Dean and Canons there (from whom he has an ample testimoniall) soon pleased to give him leave to visit me in my weaknes about Martinmas last, and he has continued with me ever since that time, and I hope no wayes to his disadvantage. He is desirous to accept of that place, with your good liking, and does not fear to keep up the character of your school: And tho the Salary be but small, yet with your encouragement and his own diligence the place may be made considerable. I need say nothing of Nic's abilitys to manage that imployment, since he was bred almost 6 years under the famous D^r Busby². Eighteen boyes to be taught gratis is a great number: surely Gentlemen and persons of ability will not grudge to give at

¹ Nicholas Burton. M.A. Christ Church, Oxford, 1698; Master of the Grammar School, Durham, 1699-1709; Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, Durham, 1703-5, and lecturer at St. Nicholas', Durham. Lady Fenwick, his second wife, was widow of Sir Robert Fenwick of Bywell and daughter of Sir Richard Graham of Norton Conyers. He published an edition of the *Epigrams of Martial* and dedicated it to Dean Montagu. He gave the altar rails in St. Mary-le-Bow in 1705. He was somewhat disordered in mind in his last days. He died in 1713 and was buried in Bow Church.

² Richard Busby (1606-95). Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford. Student 1624; M.A. 1631; D.D. 1660; Headmaster of Westminster 1638-95; Rector of Cudworth, Somerset, and Prebendary of Wells 1639, ejected 1648; Prebendary of Westminster and of Wells 1660. A very noted schoolmaster.

least ten shillings a Quarter which is but half the pay allow'd to Singing and Dancing Masters.

M^r Thomlinson¹ has no lesse than 10 per quarter for every boy, save only eight poor mens sons recommended by our Chapter: School teaching is a laborious employment and requires both skill and industry: And I hope my Son will in a short time give such proof of both as that your City will have cause to thank the Dean of York and Durham for their recommendation. With mine and my wife's cordiall respects to all your family I am Dear Sir

Your most obliged friend
and humble servant

J Burton

Pray write either to M^r Dean or me speedily about this matter: and signify (as near as you can) when the place will be void

204. T.C. TO MRS. THORNTON

DEAR MOTHER. Durham May: 27: 1699.

My last to M^r D gave an account of old Purchases utterly refusing to pay Warwicks debt, and I have nothing to adde, but that I writ a very sharp letter to him (the copy of which I will bring you) to which he hath yet sent no answer. I have used my utmost endeavours to moove him, but fear now he hath got his ends he will be inexorable, for he is the worst man we could have to deal with, not caring if my sister and all her friends perish, since he hath contrived to get his own estate back cleer for Tomme,² and turned all the debts and the younger child upon her estate to starve her,³ and hamper all us while he comes off with flying colours: As far as I can yet see, he deserves our detestation, shee our pity. My journey is

¹ The Rev. William Thomlinson. B.A. Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1675; M.A. 1678; Master of the Free School in the Horsefair, York, i.e. St. Peter's School, from 1679 until his death in 1711.

² Thomas Purchas, the husband of Catherine Thornton, Rector of Kirkbywiske, left by his will 6th December 1696 to his eldest son Thomas his library of books. I suppose this is "Tomme."

³ Thomas Purchas charged his estates of Laisthorpe and Middleham with £1,000 for his three youngest children Katherine, Alice and Benjamin. Administration was granted to his widow 29th May 1697, together with the tuition of Thomas, William, Benjamin, Catherine and Alice, all minors.

fixt with God's leave on the Tuesday after Trinity Sunday, and I hope we shall be all there on Wednesday June 7th in good time, so bread must be baked, and meat bespoke against that time, I have Ale, and I hope small beer is brewed, if not I must borrow a hogs-head of you to pay again : Pray tell M^r Denton that Richard Edwards my labourer must bring over my black horse, and mare of Holm, he may come to Yarum on Sunday afternoon and from thence hither on Munday morning, so as to be here by noon and come easily : A supper about 5 or 6 a clock will serve us that night, and the rest we will take care of afterwards, provided Nightingale get us some good mutton, veal &c. As to my health it is much as it was, only I got some cold with riding out one day, but hope the effects are going off : I hope to find my Terrace wall almost finished in that time having much other work to do this summer there, so that my workmen must be ordered not to leave me : My dear has writ the rest, so I can only subscribe myself

your dutifull son

Tho : Comber.

My Lord Duke of Leeds hath given up his place of President of the Council, and my Lord of Pembroke¹ is put in his room, but I hope our friend is in favour, because the King hath order'd his son the Marquis of Carmarthen² to command the Squadron that convoys his Majesty to Holland.

For Madam Thornton at

East Newton

these

To be left with M^{rs} Grace

Thornton in Blake Street

York

post pd.

¹ Thomas Herbert, eighth Earl of Pembroke (1656-1733), third son of Philip Herbert, fifth earl. Succeeded to the title 1683; First Lord of the Admiralty 1690; Member of Queen Mary's Council 1690; Lord Privy Seal 1692; Plenipotentiary at the Treaty of Ryswick 1697; Lord President of the Council 1699; Lord High Admiral 1702 and 1708; Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland 1707; a Lord Justice 1714-15; President of the Royal Society 1689-90; K.G. 1700.

² Peregrine Osborne (1658-1729), son of the Duke of Leeds, and second Duke. Viscount Osborne in the Scottish peerage 1674; from 1689-94 known as Earl of Danby, and from 1694-1712 as Marquess of Carmarthen; Captain of the *Windsor Castle* at Barfleur 1694; led the naval Squadron at the attempted landing in Cameret (now Camarzet) Bay, near Brest, 1694; Vice-Admiral of the White 1702; Duke of Leeds 1712.

205. T.C. TO MR JOHN ROWELL¹S^r

East Newton. July 18. 1699.

Your Messenger is gon to Scarborough & promised to bring my answer w^{ch} I send immediately to Kirby-moorside by the woman who brought yours : I have enclosed my consent to your schedule* of Leases which I hope will be with you time enough to seal on Saturday, & that will be more proper then the grand Chapter, where I cannot possibly be, since I am to set forward to York towards London next Munday. I writ fully to D^r Smith my sense of all businesse by Charls, last Saturday morning he promised to deliver it, so I wonder you mention nothing of that letter, but I suppose he intends me a full answer by Joseph, whom I expect every day from Durham : I assure you I am very glad the Chapter have been so well employed since I came away, my good wishes attend them all, and so shall my service upon any occasion : You may write to me by M^r Cuthberts,² who I shall see at York on Munday night or Tuesday, but I fear Saville³ may fail, though I have sent him a brisk letter, and told him I have order to renew the suit, if he do not keep his promise & my day; if Joseph he not come away and *Charls* both before you get this, pray look if there be not on my Table or in the window in my study, a parcel of sermons of mine in 4^{to} writ out fair : and if you find them see for one upon this text Luk : xvi. 8 : about the unjust steward—and send it sealed up by one of them or by M^r Cuthberts to York; if you cannot find the parcel, they are locked up, and so must lye till I can send my key. I begin my waiting at Court August : 1st, so shall be in London about the end of this month, then direct for me at M^r Robert Clavels &c. with my services to all my brethren, I remain

For M^r John Rowell⁴ S^r your obliged friend Tho : Comber.

Register to the Dean and
Chapter at
Durham.

¹ Hunter MSS., Durham, viii, 95.

² John Cuthbert of Herrington, Sergeant-at-Law, married Dorothy, daughter of John Spearman of Hetton. Cuthbert was Recorder of Durham 1705-6.

³ William Saville was a Bachelor of Law and a Commissary of the Chapter in Howdenshire and Hemingbrough. In the Receiver's Book of the Chapter of Durham, No. 69, 1699, fol. 203, n., is an entry to the effect that he had paid £2 on behalf of the farm of the Spiritual revenues of Howdenshire and Hemingbrough.

⁴ John Rowell, solicitor and notary of Durham, died in July 1705.

206. T.C. TO MR. JOHN ROWELL¹London. Aug: 5th 1699.S^r

Being now settled here I can give you an account of my safe and prosperous journey hither, which I bore very well, and was this day at a great trouble to confute a rascally letter writ from your County affirming I was dead within a week. I shall be able to expose the silly malice of him that writ it very shortly: I came hither regularly to wait the first instant & have fixed my attendance at Whitehall: I am yet very uncertain as to my stay, but whiles I am here shall be ready to serve my brethren to the best of my power; I think you may give order to renew the suit against Savile, or bid M^r Lee² come to me for orders, because I gave him this first week in August to return the money to me to Mr Clavell (or Mr Cuthberts & I did agree) & as yet hear nothing of him or his money: I long to hear the successe of your tryals especially that with those who eat our bread: tho I confide more in the justice of the cause, and the universall hateful ingratitude of the aggressors, then in anything else: I shall be certainly here to receive and dispatch any affair by next Saturday post, and very probably longer, of w^{ch} you shall know this day sen- night: I dined with D^r Mountagu and Camb^r: last Sunday & we remembred our distant Brethren: to whom pray give my service singly as you see them: We have no greater News then the just & long deserved deprivation of the B^p of S: Davids, now only called D^r Tho Watson,³ who had as I am assured a very calm & fair hear-

¹ Hunter MSS., VIII, 98.² Mr. William Lee was a Durham solicitor. When Bishop Crewe made an entry on the estate of Hullam and Sheraton, Mr. Evans, the heir-at-law, brought an action for ejectment, and Lee, or his agent, wrote a sharp letter to the bishop, who surrendered possession and paid costs and damages. Crewe said to his agent: "Well, I pay this for thy experience." He admired Lee's plain and civil dealing, and some time afterwards he granted to him and his son (by patent for life) the office of Registrar in the Durham Court of Chancery. (Spearman, *Enquiry into the Ancient and Present State of the County Palatine of Durham*, 1729, pp. 94-5.)³ Thomas Watson, Bishop of St. David's. Fellow of St. John's College Cambridge; M.A. 1662; D.D. 1675; Bishop of St. David's 1687; quarrelled with his Registrar, Robert Lucy, 1694; accused of simony, found guilty and deprived in 1699. From that year till 1705 he endeavoured vainly to get his sentence reversed. He had been loyal to James II and opposed William's Government, and his friends, at any rate, believed the sentence to have been due to political bias.

ing : My Lord Duke¹ hath been very ill, but I hope is on the recovery, but he being at Wimbledon, I could not yet get to wait on him : I praise God I am better then I have been any time this Summer, and now question whether I shall go to the Bath or no, which divers think I have no occasion for : if Charles be now at Durham, let him know I am very well & must draw a bill of 50^l upon him to be pd to M^r Isaac Cooper, which sum, (if he go back to Newton) I wish he would leave in your hands, or send it from Newton to you, who I know (in his absence) will take care to see it payd. I have time only to add that I am

S^r your assured friend
Tho : Comber.

For M^r John Rowell
in the South Bayley
neer the College
in
Durham.

207. T.C. TO MR. JOHN ROWELL.²

Newton Aug : 28th 1699.

S^r

What I writ from York was in a great hurry, & only to let you know I was come safe thither, & now I am come home and at better leisure. I have resolved to send Joseph a little sooner with my consent to the enclosed, that so the Chapter may use their pleasure either to seal them before I come, or stay till then, for I will stay here no longer than necessity requires. I cannot as yet fix the day of my return, but in all probability it will be before Saturday fortnight, so that if either this sealing be put off or any more businesse come in, then I hope you may depend upon me. Upon looking over the late note & this (being above 600^l) I think you have done tolerable well, being it hath been haytime and harvest ever since I came away, which always use to be a vacation time : and if you get any more business ready against I come, it will be a tolerable good year.

¹ The Duke of Leeds.

² Hunter MSS., VIII, 99.

I misse S^r Blake¹ &c who I thought was proposed a moderate fine, & if he now delay he ought to pay for it : I wonder you never sent your Cosen Mr Lee to me at London as I desired, but hope you have given him order to renew the sute about Savile's arrear : for he neither sent the mony to London as he promised nor excused it by letter which is a second defyance. D^r Smith's letter about Brantingham² tenthes met me between Bishopthorp & York after I had been an hour with the Ar : B^p, & so I lost the opportunity of discoursing his Grace, so that after viewing & considering the records, and practice, after I come to Durham, a letter must be writ to his Grace about it, for he desires it may be settled speedily. The Masons³ putting off their sute, no doubt, was their interest, yet I was well pleased to find they would not give us trouble, and turn their best friends, & support, into enemys, for a chimera, that had ruined them whatever the issue were, I have met with many members of divers Cathedrals, & they admired at the pretended privilege assuring me it is no where else claimed With my services to all my Brethren

S^r yrs. Tho : Comber.

I praise God my health is better than it hath been this 12 month Yet still your Lyers in Bishopric, spread the report of my death, which I smile to hear of everywhere, & cannot devise what is the design of it of late. I now know his project who writ that false story to my Lord of Canterbury, who has markd that Fellow *nigro carbone*.

¹ Sir Francis Blake, Knight, of Cornhill, where his descendants still live. He held the farm of the tithes of garbs (i.e. wheatsheaves) of Kyloe and Scremerston in Islandshire. The Receivers' Book of the Dean and Chapter notes that on August 30th 1699 he paid £2 10s. for Kyloe and £5 for Scremerston.

² Archbishop Neville confirmed in a long list of places given to the Church of Durham, one of them Brantingham in Howdenshire.

³ There was a long-established rule among the members of the various Durham Trade-gilds that no man might exercise his trade in the city unless he had served his apprenticeship in Durham and been formally admitted a member of his gild, or, as it was expressed, had agreed with the trade for his freedom. In 1699 the Masons Company, a company going back to the days of Bishop Tunstal and still existing, was bringing a lawsuit because certain masons from the county were engaged on repairs in the College. Whether they were bringing the suit against the "foreign" masons or the chapter which employed them is uncertain, but probably the former, for there were numerous suits of a similar character from time to time. The Carpenters Company subscribed £1 towards the carrying on of this particular suit by the Masons in 1699. (*Transactions Durham and Northumberland Arch. Soc.*, IX, p. 194.)

S^r, Joseph brings you 25^l for M^r Isaac Cooper,¹ for that is all, I received of him and I am to pay no more till I have advice from my brother, who lent me 25^l more & did not hope to get it of Isaac before he came away, but if it appears by letters from London he payed the rest I will pay it to him as soon as I come over.

For Mr John Rowell

at his house in the

Bayly in

Durham.

208. ALEXANDER DUNLOP TO T.C.

Nunnington Sept the 23^d 1699

REVEREND SIR

This comes to acquaint you, that on Wednesday last I receiv'd a Letter from my Brother John, dated at Aberdeen the 7th of this Month, wherein he informs me that he had at Whitsunday last receiv'd 2000 merks Scots, which is about 111 pounds English, from a Gentleman that ow'd me it, since which time it had been idle, waiting for some easy way to remit it to London but he could find none, without losing 11 per cent for the Exchange of it. And therefore he advises me to take only one half of it at present, which he assures me he would remit to my Brother at London, as soon as possible, but I hope he has receiv'd my Letter of the 9th before this time, to which I expect an Answer shortly. I had also the same day a letter from my Brother Andrew, wherein he promises God willing to remit the 200 libs I desired, how soon he receives the said money from Scotland, and the groats due to me for the Restoration, which he hopes may be before Christmas next. In the mean time he has sent me a Bill for 20.l. on M^r Mundel of York² which he defers to accept till he receives a Letter of Advice, which I hope he has got by this days Post. Next week I expect to receive some more house-

¹ The only person of this name in the registers of the Durham parishes is Isaac Cooper, born 1624, a barber surgeon living in the Elvet, and buried at St. Oswald's in July 1697. Mrs. Comber refers to a payment by her husband to Mr. Loadman or Isaac Cooper on his last journey from London (l. p. lv). Comber could hardly have been unaware that Cooper was dead.

² William Mundell, or Mundall, was made a freeman of York *per redemptionem* in 1676-7. He was a linen draper, and was one of the officials of the freemen in 1695-6.

hold stuff, which I have order'd one to buy for me there. As also I intend to get some more Work done about the house, after which I shall be glad to receive your Commands to come and see you at Durham. For I long to try the Conjugal State: and tho' Chaucer compares it to a Revel rout, Where they that are out wold fain be in, And they that are in would fain be out:¹ yet I hope in God, if he be pleas'd in his good Providence to bring it to pass, I shall never have cause to repent my choice. But that we may goe on as clear grounds as possible, I humbly conceive the Forms of our Agreement were, that to every Two hundred libs I could raise of my own, you would add one hundred libs besides as much at your decease (as to which I wish as Horace did to Augustus Serus in caelum redeas diuque laetus intersis populo² to be laid out in some good security of Land, the profits whereof to be enjoyed by us during our living together, and the Life of the Survivor of us two, and afterward by our children (if it please God to bless us with any) but I think it requisite to add, That in case your Neece³ be the Survivor, and die without Leaving any Children by me, that in that case I may have power by my Latter Will to dispose of it, as I shall think fit. Thus hoping you will pardon this trouble I give you, and favour me with an Answer—I give my humble service to your Lady and children and Rest

Reverend Sir

Your most obliged
humble servant

Al: Dunlop.⁴

¹ The words are not Chaucer's, but from Sir John Davies: *A Contention betwixt a Wife, a Widdow and a Maide*.

"Wedlock indeed, hath oft compared bin
To publique Feasts, where meet a publike rout,
Where they that are without would faine go in
And they that are within would faine go out."

² Horace, *Odes*, I, ii, 45-46.

³ The reference must be to one of the Puckle children. There were three daughters; Mary, Anne and Elizabeth. Elizabeth died in 1694. Of the other two Anne was Comber's god-daughter. In his will Comber left Mary Puckle £10 a year to be paid her till her marriage or the death of his wife or till she received from the executrix or heirs the total sum of £100. To Anne he only left £10. It would seem that Mary is the person referred to, though I have been unable to find evidence that the marriage took place.

⁴ Alexander Dunlop was one of the witnesses to Mrs. Thornton's will in 1705. The *Stonegrave Offertory Book* has an entry that Mr. Dunlop received the Holy Communion at Stonegrave on January 1st 1698-9 and gave 1s. 6d. to the collection.

209. T.C. TO ROBERT CLAVELL

Durham Oct. 28 : 1699.

SIR.

I received a letter or two from you, but was then so ill that I could not answer them : the Hypochondriac was so violent, I could not sit to any businesse nor durst I so much as correct the 4th part of my first Part which as yet you and partners want, and must do so till my health is better. Of late I begin to recruit a little with drinking Asses milk, and if it continue to have this good effect, I can drink no Spaw Water till after Candlemas, and then you may have Masters of Sunderland or Shields¹ enow : yet in the mean time if D^r Gibbons² by M^r Tod³ will order me one dusson by land Carriage, you must get it and send it away when they appoint and let the rest stay till after Candlemas.

Your Second volume (if you be not too hasty) shall be as good as theirs, and if I have health (as I hope I may) it shall consist of divers saleable Tracts, the Newest of which is a most elaborate and useful explication of the Lords Prayer, collected almost verbatim out of the Fathers, whose very words in Greek or Latin are cited at large in the Margen, it will be more then half as big as any one of the 4 parts, and the method is so new that I think it may sell as well as anything I ever writ : Tis finished and you shall have it sent to you as soon as I meet with a good conveyance. As to the Ordination it will sell single equall to any two of their parts, and the 2 volumes of the History of Liturgys (which I thought to have shortened) are puer
I shall keep them as they were, only making an excursion briefly to chastise a busy fellow, who makes very bold with my name, under pretence of writing the Originall of Cathedrall worship;⁴ my respects to my brother when you see him, and accept the tender of the same to you and yours from, S^r your true friend

Tho : Comber.

¹ Shipmasters who would be sailing in the spring.² William Gibbons. Merchant Taylors' School. B.A., Oxford, 1672; M.A. 1675-6; Incorporated M.A. at Cambridge 1678; M.D. 1683; F.R.C.P. 1692. Died March 25th 1728.³ Hugh Todd.⁴ *A Discourse concerning the Rise and Antiquity of Cathedral Worship*, in a Letter to a Friend. Trinity Term, 1699.

I forgot to tell you of a little piece of yours and mine about frequent and fervent prayer, which I have augmented and is a very suitable piece :

Direct your letter to Ralf Hutton Esqs at his house in the Bayley in Durham and it will certainly come to him, he hath not made me one visit since I came from London.

For M^r Robert Clavell

Master of the Company of Booksellers

at the Peacock in S. Pauls'

Church-yard

these

London.

210. DR JOHN SMITH TO MRS COMBER

MADAM.

I hope the papers you sent me will return safe to your hands.

1. The Exposition upon the Lords prayer was finished by M^r Dean, and wanted only here and there a Literall Correction, with a place or Two in the Margin to be put into the Language of the Author that was quoted.

2. The Scholasticall History of Liturgys wanted only the few pages which I have endeavoured to carry on. There is a Chapter of the Book which the Dean here abridges that is wholly Controversial, and peculiar to that particular Controversy with M^r Clerkson. M^r Dean has therefore left it out in his scheme of this Abridgment and so have I in the pursuit of it. But if when it comes to be printed, it be thought convenient to abridge that Chapter I shall do it when you please. Tho I think it should not be done.

3. The papers of the Third Roll are very well worth preserving, but the subjects are out of date.

4. The Dialogue of Tythes is perfect. Note that it is the Roll of the lesser volume that had M^r Deans last hand. I remember he did it at the Deanry, and desired me then to look it over.

5. Of the fifth Roll some pieces are already printed, others are not M^r Deans, others are only occasional minutes.

6. Mr. Daille¹ epitomised appears to have bin fitted for the presse by M^r Dean himself, and only wanted some Literall Amendments.

7. The 7th Roll comes from hence, being found and brought to me in loose papers by M^{rs} Alice, having put them together, I find the most considerable of them to be that against a popish pamphlett which I have placed first. But this, like all other Controversial papers having but one time for comeing out into the presse that time being past, it cannot be printed unless the Adversary should receive² his Book. The fourth paper of this Roll is a Leaf of a Discourse, which I should be very glad you could find entire, for M^r Dean was speaking of it to me, but I'm affraid it is imperfect however there is more of it somewhere.

About 2 nights before M^r Deane left us I was mentioning to him that he would fitt some of his sermons for the presse, he seemed to have no Great Inclination that way, but told me he would look into his Notes and let me know. Accordingly the Night before he went away he began to speak to me upon the subject, that he had bin looking over his Sermons but did not find any great number of them written so perfectly as he could wish. My Answer was that I did not persuade him to print any great Number but to choose out of the whole by the Judgment of some Impartial Friends what was most. . . . He was pleased upon that to make me a Compliment which I did not deserve. But how far should be proceeded upon it I cannot without the papers advise. This only you must depend upon, that I will either chuse what may do Mr Dean Right in the world, or chuse none at all.

I do not at present remember anything more, but to assure you that I am

Madam

Your assured friend and humble servant

J. Smith

¹ Jean Daillé (1594-1670) was a French Protestant Minister, first at Saumur (1625) and then at the Temple at Charenton. He was one of the three (Daillé, Drelincourt and Gaches) who produced testimonials to Charles II's Protestantism, in exile in France. He had a great reputation for learning and was one of the greatest patristic scholars in France. He wrote *Usage des Pères*, 1628. The following works of his were printed in English in England: *Forty-nine Sermons on the Epistle to the Colossians*, 1672; *A Treatise concerning the Right Use of the Fathers* (a translation of his *De Usu Patrum*), 1675; *Faith Grounded upon the Holy Scriptures* (a translation from the French original 1634), 1675; *A Lively Picture of Louis de Moulin*, 1680.

² revive?

Mrs Smith gives you her most humble service.

I must desire you to send me your Receipt for M^r Dean's

Dividend being £203. 4. 10²/₈

and paid thus.

125. 0. 0

To Mr Dean

005. 0. 0

To Mr Bowes

073. 4. 10²/₈

To Mr Hutchinson

203. 4. 10²/₈.

For M^{rs} Comber

At Newton

These.

211. FRAGMENT¹

1. The Declaration only forbids taking arms against the King, not against subordinate, unqualified executors of his illegal will, nor yet doth it forbid defending ourselves against such as are not commissioned by the King.²

2. The Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy do bind us to renounce the Popes Authority as well as to own the Kings, and to be true to his right heir as well as to himself, therefore they cannot bind us to stand by him in his endeavour to enslave the Crown or to defend the right heir and His voluntary Abdication when no hurt was offered to him doth dispense with our Allegiance and with his right to it: And his flight into an enemy's Country makes it impossible for us to pay it.³

¹ Undated, but the reference to the Association shows it must be later than February 1696. It looks like part of a draft answer to enquiries.

² The Declaration prescribed by 1 William and Mary, Cap. 8, 1689.

"I, A.B., do swear, that it is not lawful upon any pretence whatsoever, to take arms against the King; and that I do abhor that traitorous position of taking arms by his authority against his person, or against those that are commissioned by him, in pursuance of such commission."

³ The oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy as ordered by 1 William and Mary, Cap. 8, are:

"I, A.B., do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to their Majesties King William and Queen Mary.

I, A.B., do swear that I do from my heart abhor, detest, and abjure, as Impious and Heretical, that damnable doctrine and position, that princes excommunicated or deprived by the Pope, or any authority of the See of Rome, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects, or any other whatsoever. And I do declare, that no foreign prince, person, prelate, state or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm."

3. The menace in the Association is designed in terrorem only to prevent that party from doing the first ill Act and is a Conditionall assurance of their quiet if they be not aggressors. Had the Prot(estants) abroad any such warning, or condition proposed, if they had and yet had don the first ill Act their persecution had been more excusable.¹

4. Christian religion is capable of prosperity and we pray for peace, as well as for deliverance from persecution, therefore Suffering is not necessary to its being, yet to fling ourselves into suffering when we can innocently avoyd it, is a sin not a duty. Our Lord judged suffering the best means to prepare it at first but his Providence having given us legall securitys his altering our circumstances show he doth not judge that way best now.

5. The Primitive Christians had generall commands not to resist, and no defence from the Laws. These Commands are in force still, but now the Laws protect us and our Religion against all that would pretend to execute the King's illegal will, so that now it is but justice to use those defences which God hath given us and would be folly to throw away our defences which God hath given us. The King cannot persecute us unlesse we first betray our religion.

¹ The Assassination Plot of 1696 led to the formation of the Association to recognize William's title, to defend his person, to take vengeance on any persons who should bring about his death, and to maintain the succession to the throne as prescribed by the Bill of Rights. Adhesion to the Association was to be demanded in future from all members of Parliament and all military and naval officers.

ADDENDA TO VOL. II

- p. 82. *Sigebert* of Gemblours, the Chronicler, died in 1112.
- p. 86. *Gregory* of Neocaesarea was chosen and consecrated bishop by Phaedimus, bishop of Amasea.
- p. 86. *Pulcheria*, sister of Theodosius II and daughter of Arcadius, practically ruled the Empire for many years. She died in 453.

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